THE INDEPENDENT

Why the old 🎉 need you

CHRISTMAS APPEAL, FRONT

FRIDAY LI DECEMBER 1998

How to be a hit this Christmas

IN THE FRIDAY REVIEW+DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE

After 36 years, Hanratty is set to be cleared



Hanratty: Executed for

JAMES HANRATTY, hanged By JASON BENNETTO more than 36 years ago for murder and rape, is likely to be cleared after what is believed to he a serious miscarriage of

Hanratty, 25, was executed for the so-called "A6 murder" in one of the most infamous crimes this century. It is understood that his case is to he referred to the Court of Appeal after a fresh investigation into the affair.

The inquiry into the 1961

Crime Correspondent

murder is believed to have concluded that Hanratty should never have been brought to trial and that his conviction was part of a conspiracy, possibly including a police cover-up. He was convicted in 1962 of killing a married man before be raped the victim's lover and repeatedly shot her, leaving her paralysed for life.

the Home Office had reached a similar conclusion in January 1997, but Michael Howard, who The Criminal Cases Review was then Home Secretary, de-

been quashed or the sentence

reduced by the Appeal Court.

ously reported, civil servants at

As The Independent previ-

Commission is understood to cided to sit on what was a pohave decided to refer his case to tentially embarrassing decithe Appeal Court - where the sion and leave it to the newly conviction is likely to be quashed formed commission. - after an 18-month inquiry. In all cases so far referred by the

Hanratty, a petty burglar, was convicted of abducting commission, the conviction has Michael Gregsten, 36. and his mistress Valerie Storie, 22, at gunpoint from a cornfield at Taplow, near Maidenhead in Berkshire, in August 1961. The lovers were forced to drive about 60 miles to a lay-by on the A6 near Bedford, known as

At the end of the two-hour court. There was no scientific trip Mr Gregsten, a research scientist, was shot dead. Miss Storie was then sexually assaulted before being shot repeatedly at close range. Hanratty was arrested two months later. He was convicted largely on the identification evidence of Miss Storie. Campaigners claim this evidence, which was based largely on

her memory of the tone of voice

used by her killer, would

not now be accepted by a

evidence. The investigation by the commission has been headed by Baden Skitt, 57, a former Assistant Commissioner at the Metropolitan Police. Mr Skitt, whose findings were presented to a committee for the final decision, is understood to have concluded that the original in-

vestigation was deeply flawed

and that much of the "evi-

dence" should never have been

used at trial. The commission

ment in the next few days. Michael Hanratty, 59. the hrother of James, said last night: "It's been a terrible struggle that has ruined a

whole family. You can't explain how it has affected us - it's been devastating. "The whole case has been a whitewash for years. There have heen official inquiries in which people have hent

over backwards to cover

is expected to make a state-

Pinochet is

indicted on -2,700 counts

THE FORMAL criminal indict- By KIM SENGUPTA ment of the former Chilean AND ELIZABETH NASH dictator Augusto Pinochet was in Madrid presented yesterday in Spain. listing 2,700 victims of his military regime and accusing him of "diabolical" acts of mass murder, torture and terrorism. had been made, and the pro-

The investigating judge Baltssar Garzon, seeking General mochet's extradition from bearing, bowever, is due to Britain, also sought to have his take place early next week.

The fresh round of battles over the fate of the general comes after the historic decision by the Home Secretary, Jack Straw, not to oppose his extradition to Spain, and the day before he is due to appear in an English court for the first time since his arrest two months

ago. an unprecedented appeal to the House of Lords, asking them to overturn its own ruling on the grounds of the alleged potential bias of one of the law lords.

Lord Hoffmann, who gave the casting vote in the ruling, is a director of a charity linked to Amnesty International, the human rights pressure group, and his wife works there as an administrative assistant. The pressure group represented victims of the Pinochet regime at the bearing and argued minst him benefiting from itemunity.

The judicial office of the House of Lords said it was the first time such an application cedure to handle the appeal has to be formulated. A preliminary

tors, Kingsley Napley, confirmed that they were considering asking for a judicial review of the Home Secretary's decision to allow the extradition request from Spain on charges of buman rights abuse to continue.

Last night Amnesty International published documents seeking to indicate the apolitical nature of the charity appeal, and showing that it bad been backed by, among others. Lord Irvine of Lairg, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Woolf, the Master of the Rolls, and Lord Bingham, the Lord Chief Justice, who supported Gen-eral Pinochet's claims of im-

to the Lords bearing. They also produced a letter from William Hague, Leader of the Opposition, praising Amnesty International. In it, Mr Hague stated: "I would be delighted to endorse your cam-

paign pledge. The promotion of human rights around the world is a noble cause and I comment your work in this area ... ".

Kinglsey Napiev had itself made donations to Amnesty International, and a spokesman for the organisation stressed that neither Lord Hoffmann nor his wife had played any part in policy over General

already made representations to the Home Secretary about Lord Hoffmann, In his ruling on Wednesday Mr Straw, who had taken legal advice, dismissed the claims.

The Independent can reveal that in their submission to the Home Office, the general's lawyers stated: "Unbeknownst to the Senator at the time of the hearing, Lord Hoffman (sic) is Gillian Steiner, is an employee and a member of Amnesty In-

"Had the Senator known of this connection, he would have objected to Lord Hoffman sitting on the judicial Committee that beard his case. As it is, it munity in the High Court prior is the submission of the Senator that the judgement of the House of Lords should not have been permitted to stand. Without the decision of Lord Hoffman, the House of Lords would have been deadlocked".



who were killed or went missing packed Santiago's National Sports Stadium at an anti-Pinochet demonstration vesterday in front of the Moneda palace. They carried photographs of their dead or missing loved ones as some read the

Universat Declaration of Human Rights. They distributed cartoon leaflets showing a tiny Pinochet on top of a hirthday cake and

Relatives of some of those trapped inside a ring of prisonbar candles.

The night before. Union flags were burnt in a noisy demonstration by Pinochet supporters near the Santiago residence of the British ambassador, Glynne Evans. One policeman was injured as they moved in with water cannon to disperse 200 or so demonstrators. At least 50 were arrested.

Although Madeleine Alhright, the US Secretary of

State, has refused to make a judgement on the Home Secretary's decision, he came in for criticism from the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations

Committee, Jesse Helms. Mr Helms, a veteran conservative who has long supported right-wing governments in Latin America, said the decision would deter autocratic leaders from stepping aside peacefully and allowing a democratic government.

p.a. gross (6.2% net)*

EXCLUSIVE TO CHASE DE VERE:

Bank rate cuts fails Dirty protest marks to stem job losses

THE BANK of England cut the By DIANE COYLE cost of borrowing yesterday for the third time in three

The half-point cut, to 6.25 per ent, by the monetary policy committee (MPC) was followed almost immediately by news of lower mortgage rates which will mean a saving of around £20 a react to dimmer economic month on a typical £60,000 home ioan. But savers - who outnumber borrowers by two to and insisted the Government one - will lose out when savings rates are reduced in line.

Interest rates have now returned, in the space of three months, to their May 1997 level. But they remain more than only reason why the Bank has twice as high as European been able to take that decision

AND ANDREW GRICE

rates after last week's co-ordinated reduction to 3 per cent in

the single currency countries. The swift action by the MPC since the world financial crisis shows the Bank is willing to prospects, commentators said.

Ministers welcomed the cut was on course to deliver the growth forecasts set out in last month's draft Budget. Stephen Byers, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said: "We believe the

is because of the tough measures we've introduced ensuring that inflation is at a target of 2.5 per cent and cutting the national deficit by £20bn."

Kate Barker, chief economist at the CBL said cut would give a welcome boost to spending in the Christmas season. But the announcement got a more halfhearted welcome from Roger Lyons, of the MSF union, who said: "It will be a miserable new year for manufacturing."

news in industry, with Royal Doulton announcing the loss of Royal Doulton axe, page 7

Yesterday brought more bad

Tate's Turner winner

By Clare Garner

IT MAY be dung, but is it art? Ray Hutchins, an artist who launched a dramatic protest against this year's Turner Prize winner by dumping a wheelbarrow of cow dung on the steps of the Tate Gallery, clearly thought not.

Mr Hutchins delivered his protest after learning that the winner of this year's Turner Prize, Chris Ofili, had decorated his canvasses with elephant dung. "I've been waiting to do this for years," he shouted. shovelling the muck out onto the entrance of the Tate, in Lon-City looks for more, page 18 I don, where Mr Ofili's work is

tim I WANT TOGIVE THE CURATOR A PAT ON THE BACK!

being exhibited. "It's time somebody made a stand against the idiocy of modern art. The general public on the whole dislikes it. Dead sheep and cows are one thing, but the elephant dung was the final straw for me... A real artist who can paint should have won the Turner prize."

Mr Hutchins, 66, a professional illustrator of books, mugs and pottery, from Huntley, in Staffordshire, borrowed his materials from a neighbour's farm. But the effort of collecting the dung from the field landed him in hospital with a heart attack. His wife pleaded with him not to go to London - to no avail.

Mr Hutchins finally planted a placard in the excrement which read: "Modern art is a load of bullshit."

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CHASE DE VERE

-INVESTMENTS PLC ----

INSIDE THE REVIEW INSIDE THIS SECTION

Chechen hostages film A video showed one of the dead men admitting they were spies Home P5

tar' on tobacco £100m anti-smoking drive Le Pen's NF implodes : France's far-right National Front was ripped apart by civil war Foreign P14

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Snooker shot Stephen Hendry has threatened to retire impeachment opened Sport P30 Foreign P15

Inquiry into BT lines Oftel moved to force BT into opening up its local networks to rivals

How Europe could turn Tony Blair into another John Major Comment P3 **David Shayler**

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telling the truth?

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Steve Richards

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TODAY'S TELEVISION

The fifty best wines for Christmasfrom under a fiver to £20 a bottle

ANTHONY ROSE MAKES HIS SELECTION IN THE INFORMATION

SEASONAL FOOD FROM SIMON HOPKINSON IN THE MAGAZINE **BJOHN SUTHERLAND** DO WE NEED CRITICS?

THE BEST WRITING, WEEK IN, WEEK OUT: DEBORAH ROSS, HOWARD JACOBSON, HAMISH MCRAE, MARK STEEL, ROBERT FISK, TERFNCE BLACKER, JOHN WALSH, RICHARD WILLIAMS, DAVID AARONOVITCH, ANNE MCELVOY, THOMAS SUTCLIFFE, MILES KINGTON, SUE ARNOLD, ANDREAS WHITTAM SMITH

Lockerbie relatives meet Blair

BY PAUL LASHMAR

BRITISH RELATIVES of the victims of the Lockerbie bombing met Tony Blair at Downing Street vesterday, the first meeting between a Prime Minister and the families in the ten years since the disaster. The 20 members of the UK

Family Flight 103 group praised Mr Blair's handling of the bour-long meeting. "We were impressed by the openness, frankness and lack of secrecy," said Jim Swire. "This is something we did not find with the previous administra-

The meeting came just ten days before the 10th anniversary of the bombing in which 270 people died.

Diplomatic negotiations are continuing to persuade Libya to hand over two accused former intelligence agents for trial in



Jim Swire (left) who lost his daughter, and Michael Tager, who lost his son, outside Downing Street Tom Craig | book', he added.

YESTERDAY

EXTREMES

Germany ups the stakes in rebate row

TONY BLAIR softened his language over Britain's £2 billion annual budget rebate yesterday as Gerhard Schröder, the German Chancellor, raised the stakes in the battle over the funding of the EU.

On the eve of a summit of the EU leaders in Vienna, Mr Schröder warned that, without a sharp reduction in German's £7.8bn contribution to the EU, the German people would lose faith in the European project. "Europe's problems cannot be solved with a German cheque-

BY STEPHEN CASTLE in VIENDS AND ANDREW GRICE

Germany is insisting on a package of measures to resolve the budget crisis by another summit next March, and believes Britain's special rebate, won by Baroness Thatch-er in 1984, should form part of an overall solution.

Although Britain warned earlier this week that the rebate was not up for grabs, Mr Blair adopted a more conciliatory tone in an interview with the Austrian daily tabloid, Neue Kronen Zeitung.

The Prime Minister conceded the issue will be "strongis important again for Britain to realise that we have strong position in respect of the rebate, other countries will have different problems.

"Germany, Austria, other countries have got a problem on their net contributions. Now they will obviously argue their position strongly".

Giles Radice. a pro EU Labour MP and chairman of the Commons Treasury Select Committee, went further than Mr Blair by suggesting Britain might be flexible over the rehate. He told BBC Radio: "Of course the UK would be prepared to discuss its rebate if there was reform of the CAP. The reason why we are in such a difficult position as regards contributions is of course that

the CAP doesn't help us at all." Michael Howard, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, said Mr Radice's "startling admission" suggested the Prime Minister might not be prepared to stand as firm on Britain's hard-won rebate as he claimed. "There must be no slippage from

the Government," he said. Last night Downing Street denied any change of policy on Britain'a contributions and insisted Mr Blair would not give any ground during the Vienna summit. However, the Prime Minister's more conciliatory language reflected his concern that the Government needed to adopt a more positive approach to EU negotiations after the

rows over demands for a common tax policy. Mr Blair is wor ried that repeated threats by Britain to wield its veto could prove counterproductive.

Mr Schröder's intervention made before he arrived in Vienna, is likely to set the tone for ly dehated", adding: "I think it the two-day event ending tomorrow, His speech to the Bundestag argued: "Without justice regarding contributions the people in our nations will rathen move away from Europe than support it.

In another unwelcome development for Mr Blair, the Austrian Chancellor, Viktor Klima, who will chair the Vienna meeting, said its "central theme will be co-ordinated economic policy". In an interview with Der Standard newspaper. be argued that a "common currency requires common fiscal policy, co-ordinated budget policy and co-ordinated general economic policy. That is and economic imperative. "Austriac." officials said the Vienna summit was likely to produce little more than skirmishes over the reform of the EU's finances. which is supposed to be resolved at the next summit in March under the Germany

presidency "We do not expect everyone to put all their cards on the table until a minute before midnight," an Austrian official satis

Noon today

General situation Scotland will start cold but mainly sunmy, however rain will arrive in the west by the afternoon. Eastern Scotland will remain dry with the odd sunny break. Northern Ireland will become very windy with rain setting in by the end of the morning, England and Wales will have sunny breaks but only after early morning mist and log clears in places. Rain will then arrive in viristern parts for the afternoon and sweep east with winds increasing for the evening.

Cent S, SE & E England, London, E Anglia, Midlands: Mist and log clearing then some sunstane but rain spreading in by the late afternoon and evening. A light to moderate south to south-west wand, Max temp 8-11C (46-52F). Ceut N & NE England: Sunny breaks after morning log but rain towards evening. A light to moderate southerly wind. Max temp 8-9C (46-48F). NW England, Lake Dist, Isle of Man: Sunny spells, some rain arriving in the afternoon. A light southerly wind later fresh, Max temp 8-10C [46-50F].

N Ireland: Increasing winds bringing rain for the alternoon, A light southerly wind increasing fresh to strong. Max temp 11-13C (52-SSF). SW & NW Scotland, Glasgow, W Isles: Increasing winds will bring rain later on in the day. A moderate southerly wind increasing strong. Max temp 10-12C (50-S4F).

SE & NE Scotland, Edinburgh, Aberdeen: Sunny spells but cloud will bring rain by evening. A light southerly wind later strong. Max temp 7-9C (45-48F). N Isles: Sunny spells and dry. A light southerly wind increasing fresh, Max temp 7-8C [45-46F].

QUTLOOK

Fresh in Scotland and Northern fieland with sunny spells and showers on Satur day, Very mad, grey and damp in England and Wales. Some sunshine for most parts on Sunday but rain in Northern Ireland and later much of Scotland.

London: A41 Finchley Rd. From Swiss Cottage to Fortune Green. Major works at Finchley Rd Gyratory. Until 31st December. Cambridgeships A1 between Alconbury and Haddon. Construction, lane closures IMES) a 3 (MYCOMIDE Essa), Three Arrow lanes both ways and a 50 mph speed first in lorge, Lhrisl 15; Lemuary 1999. Bristol: M5 J16-19. Major Roadworks on Acommouth Bridge, Until 1st January 2001. Norfolic A47 Hardwick Roundalbout, Kings Lynn (A10). Roadworks between the pullover

We II.

Until 13th December 1998.
West Yorkshire: Mf Between JA2 Lotthouse
Interchange (M62) and J43 Stourton.
Roadworks and a 50mph speed limit.
Until 31st December 1998.
Cambrie: M6 J37 Kendal. Roadworks, carriageway reduced to 2 lames both ways with a 50mph speed limit, I mile south of the junction. Until 18th January 1999.

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Czech Republic are risking their lives by camping on the streets of the town of Pilsen in sub-zero temperatures so they can catch today's concert by the German-based pop phenomenon, the Irish Kelly Family. Static Arctic conditions over Eastern Europe have already killed more than 100 people since November but fans have been braving -15C temperatures since Tuesday to

0 0.31 17 52 24 hours to 6pm (GMT) Thursday Information by PA WeatherCentre

DOZENS OF teenagers in the queue for tickets.

THE WORLD YESTERDAY

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THE VIENNA AGENDA

Reform of EU finances, including the CAP. This opens the Pandora's box of national contributions to the Brussels budget, and the sacrosanct British

Employment, job targets and taxation. In other words, the next round in the Anglo-German rumpus over tax harmonisation, and the merits of state intervention versus the free market

Duty-free shopping. The Commission thought it had agreement to abolish this by next summer, but now the politicians are having second thoughts.

The salary package for Euro-MPs. A long-standing tale of perks and padded expense accounts, which have defied every effort to trim them.

European Defence. Britain and France are proposing a European defence identity. But will the neutrals go along, and what happens to the Western European Union? Trade with South Africa. Six months ago, Nelson Mandela was hailed at the Cardiff summit as a hero for the ages, but Europe balks at concessions on imports of South African

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'The challenge is to grasp and shape history as we bury our past grievances'

BY DAVID MCKITTRICK Ireland Correspondent

JOHN HUME and David Trimble, visionary Irish nationalist and pragmatic Ulster Unionist, stood together yesterday on an Oslo stage to receive the world's supreme international honour, as joint recipients of the Nobel peace prize.

The two men, so far apart in politics and so often at odds in the peace process, were brought together by a shared accolade which the Nobel committee plainly hopes will strengthen that process.

Back bome in Belfast, their two parties, the SDLP and Ulster Unionists, bickered on about the mundanities of politics - yesterday's issue being a cross-border agriculture comnuttee. But in the Norwegian capital, the ceremony - hroadcast live in Northern Ireland projected an aspiration that the peace process could evectually deliver something glorious.

The chairman of the Nubel committee, Francis Sejersted. indicated in his speech that the panel did not naively assume that all violence had ended. But he declared: "The vicious circle has been broken. The peace process has built up a momentum of its own which makes a return to earlier conditions of terror unlikely, although we must be prepared for minor setbacks as the process continues.

Mr Sejersted, displaying a detailed knowledge of Northern Ireland politics, said of the prize-winners: "More than anyone else, Mr Hume is the architect behind the peace process and the solution

sometimes very harsh criticism from within his own ranks as well as from others. He has stood firm and his policy has won through."

Of the Unionist leader he said: "Mr Trimble was a relative newcomer to top-level politics. He was known as an uncomshowed that he had other po-



chosen in the Good Friday

John Hume (left) and David Trimble waving to well-wishers during a candlelit peace vigil following yesterday's Nobel peace prize ceremony in Oslo

ed more flexible attitudes on the part of Unionists.

"Under his leadersbip enough fear and suspicion was overcome to enable a majority of Unionists to rally behind the Good Friday Agreement."

Mr Sejersted repeated the words of the peace talks chairbeen no agreemeot"

The politicians had previously beld a private meeting with the King and Queeo of Norway and attended a parade staged in their bonour by 5.000 children.

Although it was a day for emphasising their common goal of promising Unionist but soon man, George Mitchell: "Without the pursuit of peace, the ac-Mr Hume there would have ceptance speeches of the two litical sides to him, and clearly been no peace process; without men vividly illustrated the past grievances and injustices vapours" and delivered a lec- was flawed; 14 times he more that republicans had to against such daunting odds.

"He has had to swallow felt that his situation demand- Mr Trimble there would have hugely different mind-sets of can give way to a new gennationalism and Unionism. Mr Hume metaphorically reached for the skies; Mr Trimhle brought things back to

> The SDLP leader referred to many moments of deep depression and outright borror", but weot on to declare: "The challenge now is to grasp and shape history - to show that

erosity of spirit and action. Bloodshed for political change prevents the only change that truly matters - in the buman heart." He spoke of Europe, of vision, of reconciliation, of radical departures, of infinite pos-

sibilities. Mr Trimble, who was on a completely different wavelength, derided "visiooary ture on human and societal frailties. His was a more brooding and pessimistic view, dwelling on dangers and evils rather than reaching for pos-

He spoke of dark forces and the dark side of human nature. using the words "dark" or

"darker" eight times. Six times be reminded his audience that human nature

fanatics.

"Some critics complain that I lack the vision thing," he declared, "but vision in its pure meaning is clear sight. That does not mean I bave no dreams - I do - but I try to have them at night." And bringing the Nobel occasion to the level of current political controversy.

spoke of fascists, terrorists and

decommission arms to demonstrate they bad left terrorism and fanaticism behind.

Unless the IRA quickly began to decommission, he said, there would be "dark doubts about whether Sinn Fein are drinking from the clear stream of democracy or are still drinking from the dark stream of fascism - it cannot for ever face both ways".

His words represented an implicit challenge to the idea of inclusion which both Mr Hume and Mr Sejersted bad commended. Irish republicanism might, he seemed to say, prove to be an evil force which should be excluded rather than brought in to the political system.

Having sketched in this sombre hackground, he promised to persevere with the Good Friday Agreement, but insisted he would move steadily rather than recklessly: We will go on all the better if we walk rather than run." This will be viewed as a sign that he intends to continue at a pace which nationalists, and it appears Tony Blair, regard as exasperatingly slow.

The differences between the Hume and Trimble approaches, so starkly exposed, may have caused some in the audience to wonder bow the peace process had managed to proceed so far. Next week. the two men will be back in the political trenches in Belfast, going over the familiar difficulties and tackling work that Mr Trimble yesterday described as "grubby and without glamour".

A pre-Christmas breakthrough on the details of new Belfast and cross-border institutioos is, for the moment, the limit of most politicians' amhitions. But breakthrough or not, the decommissioning Issue will still be there wheo they reconvene in the new year.

Yesterday was not, however, a day for dwelling on the myriad difficulties ahead. Rather it was one of international acknowledgemeot of how many obstacles have been successfully surmounted, and of bow much be went on to stipulate ooce has already been achieved

Last time round, peace seemed a hopeless cause

By STEVE CRAWSHAW

YESTERDAY'S ceremony did not mark the first time that the Nobel peace prize has been awarded to those who have tried to end the violence in

Twenty-one years ago, Betty Williams and Mairead Corrigan, co-founders of Peace People, received the Nobel peace prize in recognition of their valiant attempts to organise public railies that could help bring an end to the nightmare. But there is a world of dif-

ference between 1977 and 1998. Williams and Corrigan were awarded the prize for their courage in fighting what seemed to be an unwinnable battle. Like the elected hut banned Burmese leader, Aung San Suu Kyi - wbo was awarded the Nobel peace prize in 1991 - the prize was awarded for valour, not for victory.

Peace People was born of tragedy: Mairead Corrigan lost a niece and two nephews. mown down by a car after an IRA driver was shot; Betty Williams, whose father was a Protestant and father a Catholic, witnessed the accident. The two womeo joined But, despite some popular sup- terrorist dogs, and Paisley is into perspective.



Mairead Corrigan (left) and Betty Williams, whose peace rallies in Ulster won them the Nobel prize jointly in 1977

ture of violence. The peace rallies attracted thousands, even then. Williams declared: "Let all women encourage men to have the courage not to turn up for war." The Nobel committee's citation argued: "Their initiative paved the way for the strong resistance against violence and misuse of power, which was present in broad circles of people."

forces to work against the cul- port, Corrigan and Williams were still voices in a political wilderness. After almost a decade of violence, the distrust and hatred were stronger than the yearning for an end to violence. Powerful forces on both sides were unhappy at the very existence of the Peace People. The IRA threatened them; Ian Paisley scorned them. Now, the IRA has itself called off the

isolated as never before. John Hume, by contrast - uniquely steadfast in his commitment to tolerance in the past three decades - was isolated when the Peace People were active. Now the peacemakers stand centre stage, while the intolerant have been pushed to one

Corrigan and Williams later fell out with each other - in 1986, ten years after the founding of the Peace People, a television documentary tried to hring them together again. They refused: by that stage, the rift between the two women was too serious. None the less, the 1977 prize can be seen as a kind of warm-up for yesterday's award ceremony. Some of the worst atrocities took place in the ears after the Peace People's first flurry of half-success. At . the time, their attempts to change things seemed hopeless. In the meantime, bowev er, the landscape has changed irrevocably.

Doomed gestures are not always as doomed as they seem, in the darkest moments. If things look bad in Ulster today - one only needs to look back twenty years, to get the gloom

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Sabotage at the opera house

THE ROYAL Opera House has become the latest high-profile construction project in London to be the victim of sabotage. it was revealed yesterday.

Mystery saboteurs struck Covent Garden, damaging the scheme's fire protection system and forcing cootractors to lose at least a day's huilding work.

ternal investigation by the construction management firm Schal which said that tight se-

curity meant that it was unlikely to bave been an outsider that carried out the vandalism.

The attack, to cabling that at the £210m redevelopment at forms part of the fire safety equipment, comes after last month's suspected sabotage on the Jubilee Line extension to the London underground a project already delayed -The incident forced the site's which cost an estimated closure and bas sparked an in- £100,000 of damage. Again this was damage to essential cables, although the attacks are not thought be related. The Ju-

a key component for travelling to the Millennium Dome, is already bogged down by industrial disputes and wildcat will have."strikes by electricians working on the project.

House sabotage, which happened last week, features in today's issue of the trade magazine Building. The deputy editor, Giles Barrie, said time-sensitive high-profile projects were extremely vulnerable to industrial problems. He said: "The closer we get men.

bilee Line extension, which is to the deadline the more bargaining power workers, especially specialists like electricians who cannot be replaced, In August, Schal, which has

not called in the police, admit-News of the Royal Opera ted problems with the Royal Opera House's fly tower, blaming the contractor Bison. And in September 150 electricians walked out for two days, complaining that the 700 workers on the site had just eight functioning toilets and only a single canteen area which houses 72

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'Monsters' back in Chile's stadium

A QUARTER of a century after By PHIL DAVISON its most infamous days - under the rule of General Augusto Pinochet - Santiago's national sports stadium was back under the watchful eye of grim-faced Chilean police last night.

But it was a far cry from the era of the torture, executions and disappearances which began when Pinochet opponents were herded into the stadium in 1973.

This time, the place was packed with Chileans from both sides of the political and Pinochet spectrum, united m their love of heavy metal at the long-awaited "Monsters of Rock" concert of leading international bands.

Still, the former dictator's shadow hung over the stadium. The main attraction, the British group Iron Maiden, did not show up following Foreign Office advice against trips to Chile during the Pinochet crisis.

Earlier in the day relatives of some of those who were killed or disappeared after being taken to the stadium, waved the British flag and praised the Home Secretary. Jack Straw, at an anti-Pinochet demonstration in front of the Moneda palace. This is the building Pinochet attacked in 1973 to oust Salvador Allende, Chile's Marxist president.

Carrying photographs of their dead or missing loved ones, the 100 or so relatives mostly middle-aged and elderly women - read the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and said it was appropriate that Mr Straw had made his extradition decision almost



President Eduardo Frei: Wants Pinochet returned

exactly 50 years to the day after the Declaration was made.

"Frei is a worm!" some shouted, referring to President Eduardo Frei's efforts to secure Pinochet's return to Chile. A small delegation was allowed to hand into the palace a letter to Mr Frei calling for a new conshitution to replace the one drawn up by Pinochet in 1980 during his 1973-1990 dictatorship. That one guaranteed him a lifetime seat in the Senate.

They then distributed cartoon leaflets with the caption, "50th anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights," and showing a tiny Pinochet on the top of a birthday cake, trapped by a ring of prison bar-like can-

The night before, British

alight during a rowdy demonstration by Pinochet supporters close to the Santiago residence of the British ambassador. Glynne Evans. One policeman was injured as officers moved in with water cannons to disperse 200 or so demonstrators. At least 50 were arrested.

While the former dictator makes a first appearance at Belmarsh Magistrates' Court today, Chile's National Security Council - largely a relic of his military regime - will hold a crisis meeting to discuss the government's next course. The council comprises the President, the army, air force and navy chiefs, the chief of police and the chairmen of the Senate and the Supreme Court.

The army - still commanded by Pinochet until earlier this year and still strongly behind him - issued a tough statement calling Mr Straw's decision "abusive and humiliating". Such remarks always resurrect the spectre of a coup, but senior army officers, although critical of Mr Frei for not taking a more aggressive stance against Britain, insisted they would adhere to the con-Friends of Pinochet said he

planned to release a "political testament" which, rather than defending "the hiological Pinochet," would "zero in on his legacy; his work in saving the nation". The friends suggested that his family and supporters were now realising that he would not be coming home soon. His entire family was now assembling to be with him



At a rally in Santiago yesterday, a woman from an organisation of 'disappeared' Chileans celebrates the British decision Ricardo Mazalan

military aircraft - which had been on standby for some weeks at RAF Brize Norton. ready to take him home - had

returned to Chile without him. All of which left Chile in a state of limbo yesterday, but not the tension many had expect-

for months, if not years, has dampened passions somewhat for the time being. But the British embassy con-

The realisation that his case,

which is likely to involve a

string of appeals, could drag on

tinued to be on a state of alert, and said the Foreign Office no-

tice advising Britons against whose wallet he snatched from visiting Chile remained in a jacket.

The only thing anywhere near an anti-British attack this week was the pickpocketing of a senior British diplomat. Police believe that the thief did not demned Britain for "continuing

While passions were large-

ly under control, the rhetoric continued. Hernan Brines, president of

the Pinochet Foundation, con-

small Latin American nation." On the lighter side, a reader wrote to the daily newspaper El Mercurio: "This Pinochet-England thing is as ridiculous as an English bobby showing up in Chile and giving me a ticket for driving on the right-hand side

Spanish judge has long list of killings

THE INDICTMENT against BY LIZ NASH in Madrid Augusto Pinochet drawn up and KIM SENGUPTA by Judge Baltasar Garzon is a catalogue of sadistic murder, torture and terrorism carried out by the dictator's regime in Chile and abroad.

It lists 2,700 victims of Chilean military repression, including Spaniards, Brazilians, Argentines, Bolivians and other Latin Americans. Pinochet planned and carried Judge Garzon alleges that General Pinochet, through the groups in Europe and elsewhere to orchestrate the group, assassination of political opponents including President Allende's military chief of staff. Carlos Prats, the Communist leader Carlos Altamirano, and Chile's former vice-president

Bernardo Leighton.

eral's assets should be frozen, the Spanish authorities indicated that the general may face a substantial fine on conviction. Under the country's laws no one over the age of 75 can be sent to prison. The judge says that General

out a campaign inside and outside Chile to "partially destroy Chilean secret police, Dina. a national group for ideological contacted right-wing terrorist and religious reasons and parhally eliminate an ethnic ment". He describes the beaten, and killed. Women international co-operation with prisoners were subjected to inate political dissidents, the members of Dina. Condor Plan, directly implicating Pinochet and his right- is due to be sent in to the

attributes to the Dina and to General Pinochet the assassination of Chile's ambassador in Washington, Orlando Letelier. Other assassinations given prominence are those of 16 Spaniards - although he notes that this tally is not exhaustive. He details the detention, torture and death of the victims. including Carmelo Soria, a Spanish diplomat accredited to the United Nations.

Judge Garzon directly

The detailed investigation charts how dozens of detainees were given electric ock treatment, savagely neighbouring dictators to elim-

Judge Garzon's indictment hand man, the former head of British authorities in the next

In demanding that the gen- the Dina, Manuel Contreras. few days. Next stop Plumstead for the General

BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE

THE BLEAK lowlands known as the Plumstead Marshes are flat and grey, broken only by the hrooding hulk of Belmarsh Prison. On a dull December day it would be hard to think of anywhere in greater contrast to the urbane sophistication of the Presidential Palace in central Santiago.

Yet later today, Augusto Pinochet - senator, general, former dictator and sometime Santiago resident - will appear at the modern Magistrates Court next to the jail - the latest stop on his increasingly bizarre visit to Britain.

It is unlikely the ageing general could have anticipated when he arrived in London in September and took tea with former prime minister Margaret Thatcher that he would end up at the salt flats at the end of London's Blackwall Tunnel

Belmarsh Magistrates and Crown Courts, which opened five years ago, are among the most secure in Britain, and have been the site of the trials and committals of many serious criminals.

Court staff reveal, almost proudly, that one of the Kray clan was dealt with there.

Today security at the court will be extremely tight - police officers are being drafted in and the number of private security guards will be boosted. ("My boss told me I could 'piss off', when I joked that I wanted tomorrow off," one of the guards said yesterday.)

In contrast to today's security, things yesterday were remarkably quiet.

The two security staff seemed rather amused by the

Belmarsh courts, where Pinochet is due to appear

media interest, in particular the dock on a blue, cushioned from Chilean journalists who struggled to find the Spanish translation for "in the dock". One of General Pinochet's countrymen said: "This is an historic moment, as we might be the last journalists to ever see him alive."

The courtroom was locked, the one case it was hearing having been dealt with earlier in the day, (An Alfaw Waz, accused perhaps suitably enough - of conspiracy to murder.)

There is only one court at Belmarsh - a futuristically designed, large, airy room on the first floor. It is clean, pine-clad and has windows close to the

Space has been set aside for 38 journalists, of which only four are from Chile.

It is likely that General Pinochet's lawyers will argue that the 83-year-old be allowed to remain seated in his wheelchair in front of the dock during the hearing. If not, the

bench behind a screen of strengthened glass.

The case, expected to last little more than 10 minutes before it is adjourned, will be heard by Graham Parkinson, a recorder and Metropolitan Stipendary Magistrate who likes opera and playing the piano.

Mr Parkinson, 61, was not available for comment yesterday but a spokeswoman for the Lord Chancellor's Department said: "Of course Mr Parkinson is aware of the worldwide interest in this case, but he will hear it entirely on its merit.

"There is no way that be will have been briefed or anything like that. The judiciary is completely independent."

Exactly what route General Pinochet will take to Belmarsh from his rented home on the upmarket Wentworth Estate in Surrey is not clear.

But one would advise him to leave in plenty of time. With all the roadworks going on yesautocratic backside will rest in terday, the traffic was murder.

ed after Mr Straw's decision. in England, they said. A Chilean flags were not waved hut set **BRITAIN'S** ON PURCHASE OF ALL PAGEONE **BIGGEST CHOICE** OF PAGERS BRITAIN'S BIGGEST CHOICE Lowest ever price on PageOne Chaose from over Minicall 20 pagers 50 mobiles ■ 120 felephones. FEATURING THESE BENEFITS • is laxes No monthly bills No connection fee ADVICE No charge for receiving messages We will help you choose Messages received in seconds the right pager PAGEONE MINICALL for your needs. **TEXT PAGER** One line, 16 character scrolling backlit display GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICES Model: MOTOROLA THE LINK PRICE **ALPHA EXPRESS** We won't be Was £54:99 £49.99 MINIATURE beaten on price.* HURRY! LIMITED STOCKS £ 37.99 RADIO* **OVER 160 STORES** FREE MINIATURE RADIO FREE LOTTERY RESULTS NATIONWIDE Freephone PAGEONE MINICALL 0500 222 666 PAGEONE **TEXT PAGER** For your nearest store or to order direct MINICALL Stores up to **NUMERIC PAGER** 20 messages Top mounted, backlit Built-in travel clock 12 digit display Stores up to 16 messages Model: MULTITONE MICRO AVAILABLE COLOURS FREE MINIATURE RADIO FREE MINIATURE RADIO* PAGEONE PAGEONE MINICALL MINICALL TEXT PAGER TEXT PAGER 4 line, 80 character Available in scrolling backlit Silver, Gold, Slue Model: NEC PREMIER The Link THE EASY ROUTE TO THE RIGHT PAGER

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Video shows hostage spy 'confession'

THE DEATHS of the Western By Andrew Buncombe hostages in Chechnya took a new twist yesterday with the discovery of a video in which one of the men said he and the others had been spying for British intelligence.

Chechen officials who had seen the tape said it was apparent the man had heen forced into making the "confession". Their employers and the Foreign Office said there was no truth in the claims and their relatives said the video "added to their revulsion".

The Independent has learnt the identity of the man helieved to have kidnapped and killed the four engineers. Sources in the Chechen capital, Grozny, said security forces were hunting Arbi Barayev, a oung Islamic extremist linked previous kidnappings.

The video was shown yesterday by the Chechen Vice-President, Vakha Arsanov, who said it was found on Wednesday, the day after the severed heads of the engineers were found on a road 40 miles from Grozny. Local journalists watched the video but Aslan Maskhadov, the Chechen President, later refused to release it.

On the clip the men identify themselves as the three Britons, Rudolf Petschi, Darren Hickey and Peter Kennedy, and the New Zealander Stanley Shaw. Mr Kennedy then says in Russian: "We have been rer wited by the English intelli-Ance service. We installed a satellite aerial so that all phone conversations on Chechen territory were heard by German, English and Israeli special services and the CIA." He also said

and PHIL REEVES

he had installed equipment to spy on Chechen military camps

Mr Arsanov refused to say where they found the video but added: "They must have been forced to confess. But we do not have been threatened." know yet. We will have to check this information.'

In London a Foreign Office spokesman said of the video: "It's complete rubbish. You will recall that they were trying to claim Jon James and Camilla Carr [aid workers held hostage for 14 months] were also accused of being spies." Granger Telecom and British Telecom, the men's employers, also denied they had links to the intelligence services.

The British ambassador in Moscow, Sir Andrew Wood, said: "We don't comment on these things in general. But any



Peter Kennedy: Videoed making confession

reasonable analysis would show that we have no wish to spy on Chechen territory."

Eamon Hickey, Darren's father said: "They went ... to install ... telephone equipment with the support of the Chechnyan authorities. These confessions have obviously been forced out of them after they

Ministry of Defence disclosed that Mr Petschi, fluent in several East European languages, had spent 20 years in the Royal Signal Corps. The ministry said be did not have an intelligence background.

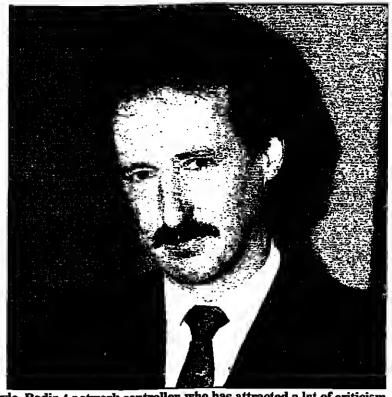
The disclosure that security forces are hunting Mr Barayev, a ruthless former Chechen separatist commander, again raised the likelihood that the kidnapping was political. Mr Barayev, in his 20s, is a Wahhabi Islamic fundamentalist whose group has strong ties to Saudi Arabia and who has long been opposed to the secular Mr

He is believed to been involved in the kidnapping of Mr James and Ms Carr.

He came under suspicion when the engineers were first seized, not least because an injured kidnapper reportedly turned himself in at a hospital at Urus-Martan, 20 miles from Grozny and which is a known stronghold of Mr Barayev. Reports in recent weeks said he had been shot, but survived.

The rise of Wahhabism in the north Caucasus become an issue of profound concern to the Chechen government, and Moscow, which has yet to recognise Chechnya's inde-





Chris Dunkley (left), former presenter nf 'Feedback', and James Boyle, Radin 4 network controller, who has attracted a lnt of criticism

BBC slated as control freaks

THE FORMER BBC presenter Chris Dunkley turned on corporation executives vesterday, accusing them of behaving like control freaks by trying to

silence dissenting voices. Mr Dunkley, who fronted Radio 4's Feedback show for 13 years, walked out on the final two programmes in the current series after hearing he was to be replaced in the new year. He said his removal showed a "Soviet-style politburo" intolerance of dissent. The weekly show was a

focal point for listener dissat-

BY RHYS WILLIAMS and PAUL MCCANN

isfaction, particularly after introduction of a controversial Radio 4 schedule in April that led to the defection of 500,000 listeners. James Boyle, the network's controller, has come in for regular criticism.

Mr Dunkley said: "The BBC is much mnre centralised these days and Radio 4 is the prime example. Control freakery is the phrase at the back of my mind and Feedback does not fit into the control-freak

mentality. In the past the BBC time to listeners' letters. The was much more willing to enter into debate. Now they perpetually attempt to sideline the criticism as the bleating of an unrepresentative minority

Nobody has explained anything to me tabout my sackings and, in the absence of a clear explanation, I have to wonder.

"It's difficult to avoid feeling they are shooting the messenger. We are a complaining voice and in the end it's one they don't want to hear any more. (The new programme) will only devote half as much

rest, I'm told, will be telling people what the BBC does that ... sounds like a thinly disguised PR job for the BBC. One just wonders to what extent it will be effective as an outlet for continued criticism."

Producers denied the new Feedback will be soft. It will last half an hour instead of the present 15 minutes and go out on Friday afternoons after The World at One. The BBC is trying to persuade Roger Bolton, who presents Channel 4's Right to Reply, to take over.

said: "If we really were control freaks we would move the show to late at night, not to one of our highest listening spots and double it in length."

It has been another testing week in a trying year for Radio 4. Mr Dunkley's departure coincided with the sacking of Russell Davies, presenter of Talking Pictures, and the resignation of Robin Lustig after he failed to persuade executives to move back his weekly phone-in The Exchange to its original morning slot.

Eco-warriors dig in to defy bailiffs

BAILIFFS continued their ef- By MICHAEL MCCARTHY forts yesterday to dislodge protesters from a network of tunnels under the proposed route of the Birmingham Northern Relief Road, just as the Government confirmed start dates for several new

road-building projects. vironmental activists have constructed tunnels with concrete-enforced entrances beneath Moneymore Cottages. on the edge of the motorway route near the village of Weeford, Staffordshire.

Bailiffs working for county officials brought one protester out of a tunnel after a struggle yesterday. But up to 10 more were still believed to be underground. Efforts were con-

tinuing to dislodge them. The planned £400m, 27-mile motorway - intended to link the 2 at Coleshill with the M6 at Cannock - has been described as unnecessary and a blight on of residents and eco-warriors. Protesters include "Muppet Dave" and other veterans of campaigns at Manchester Air-

and PHIL THORNTON

current battle follows an 11-year saga since the road was first proposed. A public inquiry in 1994 and 1995 - the longest held into a road scheme - eventually gave the go-ahead.

Environmental groups reacted angrily yesterday as the Government confirmed starting dates for 24 roads and details of the next stage of 13 more projects, including five to be built under private-public partnerships. The schemes were all listed in the Government's roads review in the summer.

Lord Whitty, the Roads Minister said the announcement of firm dates allowed the Government to "clarify matters for all concerned". He added: "This is a realistic, achievable programme which we are committed to taking forward, and which reflects our new inte-

the environment by a coalition grated approach to transport." Roger Higman, transport spokesman for the environmental group Friends of the Earth, said road-building was

ultimately self-defeating way of dealing with traffic problems". He added: "Instead of wasting money on these projects, the Government should invest in traffic management, bus priority and cycle schemes, which provide far more relief for far less money."

Lynn Sloman, of the Transport 2000 campaign group, said; There are some [schemes] that are clearly not appropriate, where there is local concern and where the full range of alternatives has not been explored." The most unpopular schemes included Bingley relief road in West Yorkshire, the A27 Polegate bypass in East Sussex and the A120 Stanstedto-Braintree road in Essex.

The Birmingham Northern Relief Road, currently the subject of protest, is being huilt and will be run by Midlands Expressway a joint venture be-tween the Norwegian firm, Kvaerner, and Autostrade, which runs Italian toll roads. Motorists will be charged £2.50 to use the highway, an alternative and - in theory - less congested route to the M6.

port and Newbury bypass. The an "expensive, destructive and London to get a new paper

London, to be given away free to Underground passengers, is to be launched soon.

Associated Newspapers, which publishes the Daily Mail and London's Evening Standard, confirmed yesterday that it planned to launch the paper "in the New Year". The publishing group is thought to be close to a deal with London Underground to distribute the paper at tube stations.

The journal will compete doing this to lose money," he with other national newspapers. "It's essentially a defensive move, but we would rather we did it than anyone else," said Peter Williams, finance director of Daily Mail & General Trust, Associated's holding company. "The effect on the er morning newspapers will be quite interesting.

It is understood that other publishers had been con-

A NEW daily newspaper for BY PETER THAL LARSEN

sidering launching similar products.

Mr Williams said the new paper was based on a model which had been used before in other countries.

He declined to confirm the launch budget, which is rumoured to be about £8m. However, he said the figure was "not significant" in the context of the group. "We're not

added. Yesterday, Daily Mail & General Trust reported a pre-tax profit of £188.6m for the year to September - a 30 per cent in-

However, media analysts questioned the sense of launching a new title in a crowded market at a time when advertising sales are beginning to come under pressure.

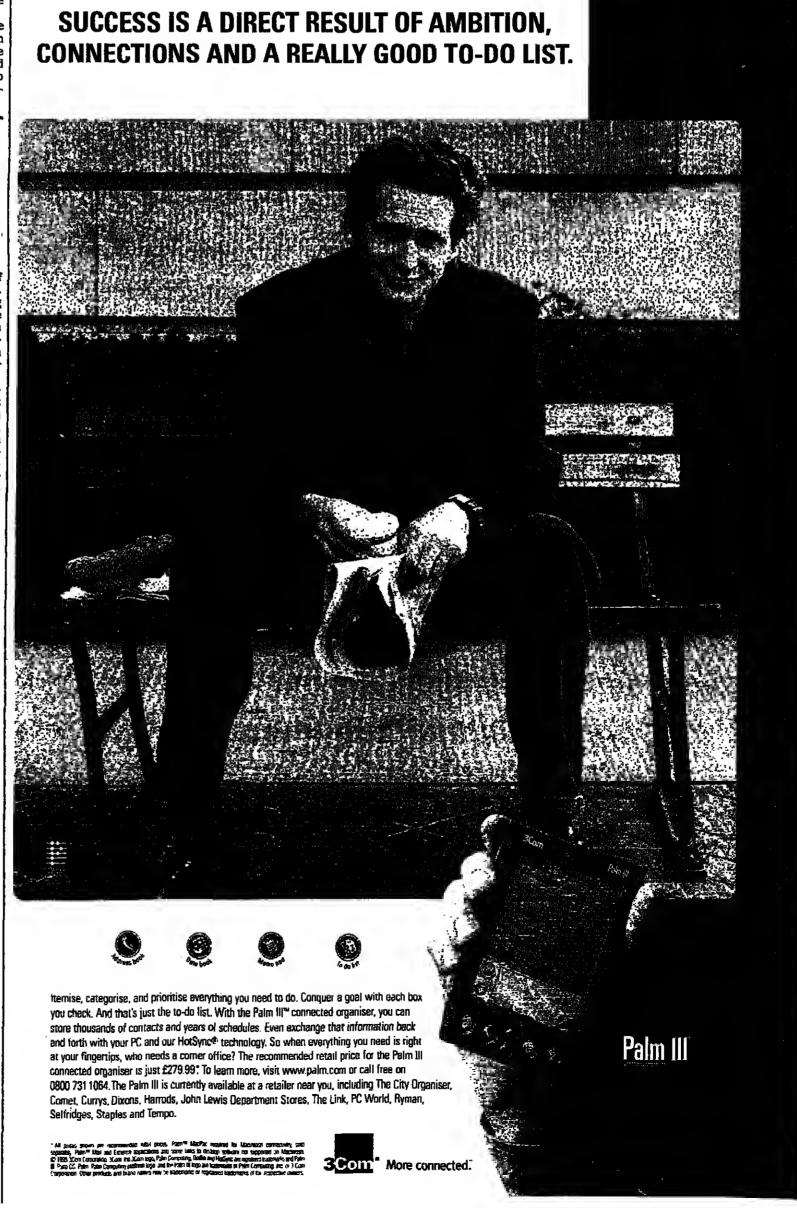
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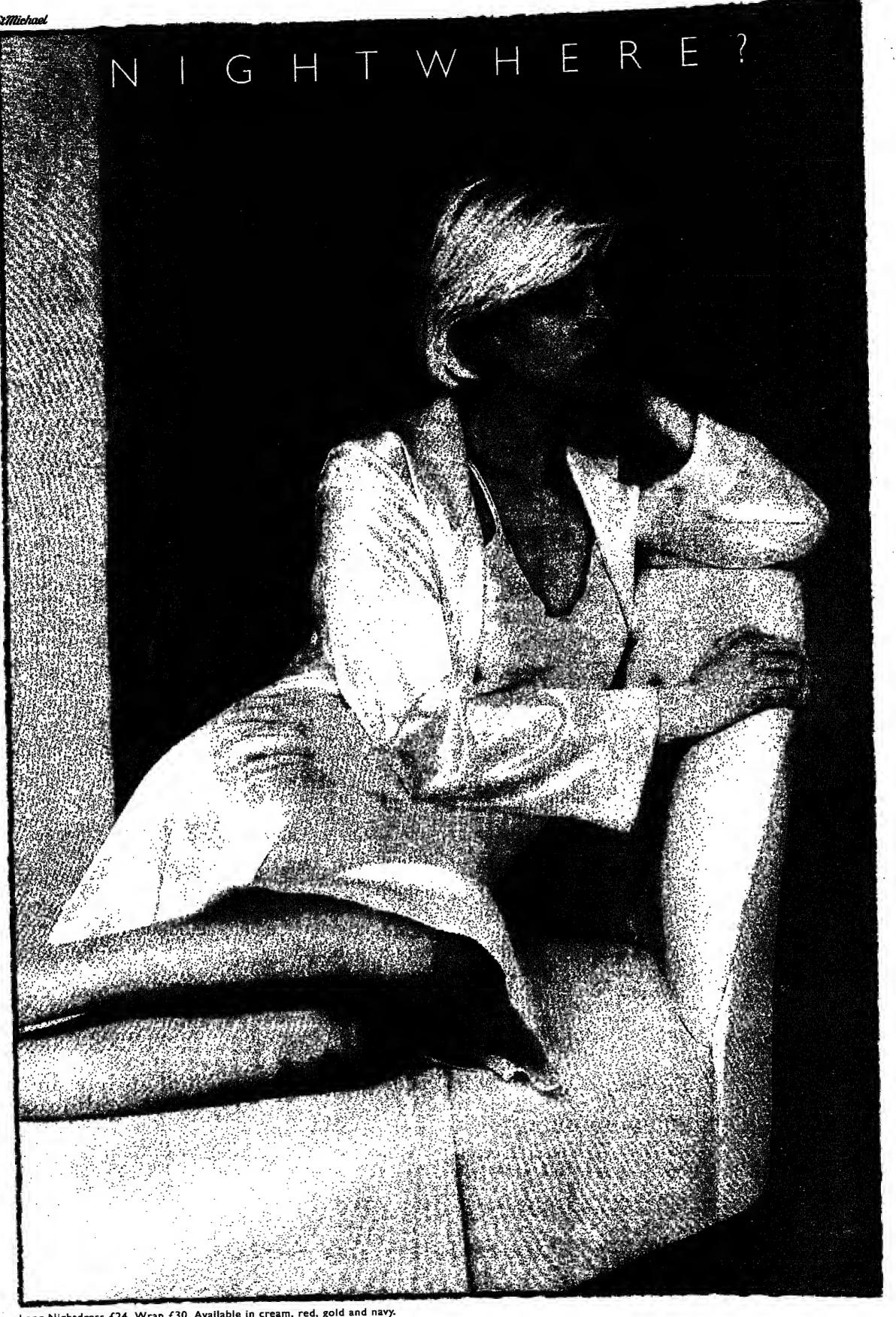
By CHARLES ARTHUR Technology Editor

THE HEAD of the biotechnology giant Monsanto last night decided to ignore public opposition to the "Terminator" technology, which prevents farmers from storing seeds, and let development continue.

Robert Shapiro, the company's chief executive, yesterday met a "working group" of executives at the firm's headquarters. They are focusing on how to respond to controversy over the technology, which renders seeds sterile if they are not planted immediately.

Though Monsanto insisted the meeting was just a briefing, Mr Shapiro will be aware that the firm faces public disapproval of its products and mounting opposition to the Terminator system from farmers in developing countries.





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MARKS & SPENCER

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Royal Doulton wields the jobs axe

AS ROYAL Doulton closes its By Nicholas Schoon main factories early for Christmas today, hundreds of its workers will be leaving for the last time. They have been told not to come back in the new year - the first victims of just over 1,000 jobs scrapped hy Britain's second higgest china manufacturer, mostly in the heart of the Potteries region.

Like its rivals in Stoke-on-Trent, Royal Doulton has been hard hit by the combination of high interest rates, a strong pound and the deep recession in the Far East. About half of what it makes is exported.

But the company, which has seen its borrowing soar and has huge quantities of unsold stock, blamed poor management for much of its troubles. "Royal Doulton has been slow to face up to the hard realities required to succeed as an international business," a company statement admitted yesterday. "It has too many products, is overstocked, has over-invested in production capacity" at the expense of in-

vesting in marketing. Such candour was of little comfort yesterday to Dave Farrell. 33. a forklift truck driver. who was off work with a broken arm when he got a telephone call asking him to come to Royal Doulton's main factory in Burslem. When he got there he found he had been made redundant after 14 years with the company. His wife, Joanne, had also been laid off.

The couple and their two children now face an unhappy Christmas. "They must have known something was going on for the past six months," said Mr Farrell. 'If they'd told us this a fortnight ago we wouldn't have spent as much as we have on Christmas." Some workers

AND JOHN DAVISON

months, he added, but management had assured them they were safe.

Others hlamed poor management for the job cuts. They attacked the company's decision to set up a factory in Indonesia, which opened last year Yesterday, Royal Doulton said it was writing off £2m of the costs of that venture.

Geoff Bagnall, general secretary of the Ceramic and Allied Trades Union, said: "We have now got a situation where hundreds of our members are faced with a hleak Christmas and an even bleaker new year."

Declining union's membership figures years reflect the industry's troubles. In 10 years, numbers have fallen from 31,000 to 19,000. Yesterday's announcement may not be the end of the bad news. Other companies in the area were also in talks about finishing early for Christmas, said Mr Bagnall.

The company said the bulk of the joh losses - a sixth of its British workforce - would be through compulsory redundancy. Half of the cut is being made immediately, with the remainder by next summer. Most of the posts are in manufacturing, but others in administration and in some of the group's UK shops are also being eliminated. About 200 jobs are also expected to be lost overseas.

Stoke-on-Trent has been a pottery centre for hundreds of years. Josiah Wedgwood's factory, opened in 1759, established the area as the world's leading centre for massproduced china. Today, some 20,000 people - about a fifth of the town's workforce - are still employed in the industry.

Redundancy victim Dave Farrell outside the Royal Doulton factory where he has worked for 14 years

jobs in the past two years, according to a company spokesman. But despite the Far East recession, it reported a small rise in worldwide sales last Sep-

tember. Its Irish-based owner.

leader, has shed hundreds of Waterford Wedgwood, plans to invest heavily in the company.

Royal Doulton was floated off from the Pearson group of companies five years ago. A new non-executive chairman, Hamish Grossart, was installed last

year. He and the chief executive, Patrick Wenger, were mandated to restructure the company. But Mr Wenger was injured in a car crash in Australia a month ago and is still in hospital.

Other smaller manufactur-

ers in the Potteries have also been shedding staff and reporting falling profits and flat or declining sales, Chris Hall, of the British Ceramic Confederation, said the industry had

ciency. Thousands of jobs had

heen lost hut output had remained fairly constant. While exports have increased, so have imports of cheap tableware especially from the Far East. Business outlook, page 19 LARGE LOSSES

fume maker, 228 years old went into receivership in August. It was bought last month by the German group. Wella.

Burberrys 38

ly results, Great Universal Stores reveals profits from its upmarket clothes have collapsed from £20m to



£7.9m half-year losses in October. Two weeks ago it said 100 jobs would go. mostly at its Oswestry garment plant.

Simpson

In July, Daks Simpson announced it is to close the menswear store. Waterstone's plans to make it its flagship shop.

GIFTS UNDER



Harvey Nichols opened in Leeds but all sales are flat

Harvey Nicks' devotees not feeling so fab

HATVEY NICHOLS, the upmar- BY NIGEL COPE ket department store group, revealed yesterday that even the well-heeled clientele that frequent its Knightsbridge store are feeling the pinch of the economic slowdown.

Reporting flat profits of £6.1m for the six months to September, the retailer frequented hy Patsy and Edina in the television series Absolutely Fabulous, said sales had continued to weaken and that its profits would now fall below those of

ast year.
The general problem is a lack of consumer confidence," said chief executive Joseph Wan. "People are reading bad news in the paper every day about redundancies and factory closures. There is no 'feelgood factor' to encourage them

Although "Harvey Nicks" is protected slightly from the worst effects of the slowdown because of its wealthier customer hase, it seems these customers are still making small economies. "They need to see something they really like before they go ahead," Mr

Robert Carruthers, of the clothes industry magazine Drapers Record, said the dearth in wealthy Asian visitors was a factor in Harvey Nicholn

losing its fizz. The dramatic depreciation of the value of sterling and then the real economic downturn, especially in Japan, has meant a reduction in tourist spending," he said. "The Japanese were big spenders right across the luxury end of West AND CLARE GARNER

Harvey Nichols' warning is the latest in a series of gloomy statements from Britain's hardpressed high street. Other downbeat announcements have come from Marks & Spencer, Storehouse, the Bhs and Mothercare group; and from Arcadia, the clothing retailer that includes Burton Menswear, Principles and Dorothy Perkins.

Yesterday's cut in interest rates was helpful, Harvey Nichols said, but it would take a long time before customers return to their routine of huying designer clothes and accessories. "I think it will be difficult in the early part of next year and the mark-downs in the sales will be greater," said Mr Wan.

EE 19.5

"But hopefully it will pick up later and with the millennium celebrations, the feel-good factor might return." The grim news on trading

forced the company's shares down to 116.5p, their lowest point since the group came to the stock market nearly three vears ago.

The group's fashionable Oxo Tower restaurant on the south bank of the Thames in London managed to boost sales, however. A second London restaurant is due to open in the first half of next year in Leadenhall Street in the City of London financial district.

Harvey Nichols has also announced plans to huild a third store. It will be in Edinburgh. Its second store is in Leeds.





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8/HOME NEWS

Hellfire sermon on tobacco leaves House in difficulty

SOME ADDICTIONS last longer than others, it seems. Yesterday's session in Parliament was dominated by the Secretary of State for Health. Frank Dobson, in a hellfire sermon about the demon weed.

But it began with a tax history lesson in which Willie Ross, the Ulster Unionist Party MP for Londonderry East, pointed out, during a discussion of hypothecation, that income tax had originally heen hypothecated too, after it was introduced in the 1890s for the express purpose of huilding battleships.

Tory backbenchers roared approvingly. It may have been, of course, that they were applauding their happy memories of the days

warning that ring lenced taxes are noughts and still have change out rarely safe for long from those ravening wolves in the Treasury. But it sounded more like the nostalgic groan of a former 40-a-day man when someone describes the tarry delights of an unfiltered Cap-stan. Battleships! God, weren't they marvellous! Gave them up long ago, you know, though it took a while. Had to wean myself on to light cruisers first (barely like having a battleship at all, to be honest) and then kicked the habit altogether.

Patricia Hewitt, the Labour MP for Leicester West, interrupted

this pertinent footnote - a fair when you could buy 10 dreadof 2m guineas, to venture a correction. She had always been under the impression that income tax had been introduced to pay for the Napoleonic wars.

Tory members faltered slightly. Should they be against Bonaparte or for him? Perhaps he counted as a proto-Pinochet, a military statesman whose detention counted as an unconscionable act of prejudice against strong leadership. On the other hand, hadn't he been a rather dogmatic advocate of European union, tax harmonisation and all? The House staggered back to the



THOMAS SUTCLIFFE

sent day, or at least that erratic simulation of it offered by questions to the Chancellor. Target of the

Paymaster-General, Geoffrey Robinson.

It looks as if Mr Robinson has already lost some of his civil servants; where other ministers come to the dispatch box with a neatly arranged ring binder, replies and witticisms colour-coded for instant reference, the Paymaster-General has only an untidy sheaf of crumpled papers. Perhaps his po-litical troubles arise out of nothing more blameworthy than simple muddle. He didn't mean to sell that company to Mr Maxwell at all, just signed the wrong bit of paper

tary to the Treasury, described Mr Robinson as a "highly effective minister" and declared that he looked forward to working with him "for many months to come". Tory members jeered happily at the circumspection of this forecast. Mr Byers can bluff with the

"many years" would have been pushing it. Then it was time for a breath of fresh air. Frank Dobson rose to read out an uncompromising statement on the evils of tobacco.

best of them, but he knew that

Most Tories found themselves in some difficulty. Since smoking hits

the poor and the dispossessed hardest you might argue that it's not just anti-social, but anti-

socialist. But it doesn't do to say this aloud and it has to be left to the true zealots of the free-market to man the barricades for the drug-dealers.

There is always one to oblige, and yesterday it was Eric Forth, the Conservative MP for Bromley and Chislehurst, asking the Health Secretary whether the loss of tax revenues had been taken into account. Never mind the fact that golden goose eggs are killing up to 120,000 taxpayers a year, that 24-carat bird must be protected.

Labour arms policy 'fails ethical test'

ARMS MANUFACTURERS are WEAPONS EXPORTS more likely to have their export licence applications approved hy the Lahour Government

new figures have revealed. The disclosure casts doubt controls on the end-use of on how much has changed under Labour's "more ethical" foreign policy, which was supposed to prevent arms exports to repressive regimes.

Less than 1 per cent of applications were turned down between August 1997 and August 1998, the Government disclosed in evidence to a House of Commons committee. The number of applications was running at almost the same rate as under the Conservatives.

The figures emerged as ministers faced criticism for their failure to implement the recommendations of the Scott re- general election. port into the Arms to Ira affair, which was completed nearly three years ago.

A report yesterday from the Committee said there were ability to hold ministers to ac- ed and 85 refused - 0.85 per would be refused," he said.

By FRAN ABRAMS

Westminster Correspondent than under its predecessor, count. The committee expressed 'disappointment' that

weapons exported from Britain still had not been tightened. It also called for new rules on the "licensed production" of arms abroad by British companies, a growing trend that was revealed in The Independent in October.

The new figures on the proportion of arms export licences that are refused were given to the committee in evidence from the Department of Trade and Industry. Although they do not give a full picture of arms sales, they do give a first indication of what has happened since the

In the year from August 1997, 11,723 individual artis lied and 89 refused - 0.75 per Trade and Industry Select cent. In the 10 months up to the general election in May 1997, "gaping holes" in Parliament's 9,846 such licences were grant-

cent. On average, there were 984 licence applications per month in the period before the election and 977 after.

Rachel Harford, of the Campolyn Against the Arms Trade, said the figures confirmed the suspicion that there had been little change. "The present system is weighted heavily in favour of the military industry," she added.

Menzies Campbell, Liberal Democrat defence spokesman, said there was a need for up-todate legislation. "It is all the more necessary since the evidence seems to suggest that this Government is refusing a similar proportion of applications to its predecessor," he said. A Foreign Office spokesman

said looking at the proportion of licences refused was not a sensible way of measuring the implementation of the policy. The Government has kept

cence applications were grant- in close contact with industry and British firms understand the new rules. You would not expect them to submit applications which they knew



A United Nations group is needed to co-ordinate work to reduce the damage to coral reefs and oceans by global warming, John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, told a meeting of experts on the world's oceans at a visit to the London Aquarium yesterday Martin Godwin

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Cunningham rounds on Eurosceptic press

THE CLEAREST signal so far of Tony Blair's growing frustration with the Eurosceptic press in Britain emerged yesterday in an attack by Jack Cunning-ham on the "Europhobic prej-

udice" of the media. Appointed Minister for the Cabinet Office - and dubbed Mr Blair's "Cabinet enforcer" in the last reshuffle, Mr Cunningham is understood to have delivered his broadside at the British media with the support and backing of Downing Street.

His remarks, to a press gallery lunch at the Commons, raised further questions about the Government's relationship with The Sun and The Times, controlled by Rupert Murdoch, and the Conrad Black-owned Daily Telegraph, the newspapers that have led the claims of threat to Britain's veto over tax harmonisation

"Tony Blair came back from St Malo and read the press and thought something had to be done," said one insider. Mr Cunningham warned

that biased reporting of European affairs was threatening to undermine the Government's negotiations in Europe.

We want a serious debate about Europe. Let's get some serious facts into the debate.

BY COLIN BROWN **Chief Political Correspondent**



Cunningham: Said biased reports hamper progress

phohic prejudice about what is happening in Europe," he said. Everybody's second language in the European Union is English. They [British newspapers] are all widely read. Giving this impression not only of Britain being isolated but Britain being determined alone to defy the whole of the European Union is totally counter-

productive," he told journalists. "If we deliberately isolate ourseives we lose, we have no influence, we are left out of the decision," Mr Cunningham

said. "We want a dialogue and we need to huild coalitions for what we want to achieve. We can't do that by standing aside."

As the Minister of Agriculture, Mr Cunningham said he found that Britain was isolated over the ban on beef. "Our credibility was zero," he said. Rebuilding support had secured the lifting of the ban. The press claims that Britain faced isolation in resisting tax harmonisation ignored the support for Britain's position from France, Germany, Ireland and Sweden, he said.

Mr Cunningham also complained about recent reports that he was spending £2m on his own office. "It's much more than that," he joked.

He said the Government was spending £60m on the refurbishment of Whitehall buildings including Admiralty Arch and the Admiralty to house civil servants from the Cabinet Office, after a short lease for their offices in the Treasury building ended. The minister said he had his own pass to reach the Prime Minister's office from the Cabinet office in 30 seconds. Anyone suggesting he wanted to move to offices further away either had to have



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BT phone!

CHRIS MULLIN MR the chairman of the Home Affairs Select Committee, urged the Government yesterday to focus its attention on "vulnerable young people" before they became criminals rather than "locking people up and picking up the pieces" when it was too late.

Freedom bill

LORD LUCAS of Crudwell, a Tory peer, launched his own "freelance" version of the Freedom of Information Bill, a key manifesto commitment, after the Government delayed a draft version of its own legislation until next year. His measure received a formal first reading, hut stands no chance of becoming law because of lack of parliamentary time.

QUESTIONS AND

European law THE EUROPEAN

ANSWERS

Commission is considering the introduction of a common criminal justice system for Europe, contained in a European Union research paper, Home Office minister Kate Hoey said.

Just visiting

nationals are behind bars in England and Wales. Home Office minister George Howarth said. "On September 30 1998, there were 3,545 sentenced foreign nationals - 3,206 males and 339 females - in prisona in England and

Tory 'war room' unveiled personal presa secretary, Gre-WILLIAM HAGUE'S determi-

nation to transform the Tory party into a credible electionwinning machine was underlined yesterday with a big shake-up of his key strategists.

In a clear attempt to kickstart a fightback against the continuing popularity of Tony Blair, the Conservatives unveiled a new Central Office 'war room" that echoes Labour's Millbank operation.

A hrand new policy unit will he created to assess every area of policy, with a strategy and campaigns unit and beefed-up media department.

The moves follow concern by some MPs that the party's lack- doned. Instead. Mr Hague's general election campaign."

BY PAUL WAUGH

Political Correspondent

lustre performance in the polls has been compounded by serious misjudgements in Mr Hague's inner circle.

Michael Ancram, the party chairman, announced that a director of media would bring together for the first time a single media voice for both the leader and the party.

Attempts to recruit a highprofile journalist to act as a Tory equivalent of the Prime Minister's press secretary, Alastair Camphell, have been aban-

gor Mackay, will assume over-all responsibility for all press and broadcasting activities.

Two former leading figures in the Social Democratic Party have been appointed to bring "fresh blood" to Tory thinking. Daniel Finkelstein, former SDP strategist and the party's current head of research, becomes director of policy. The new director of research will be Rick Nye, a former associate of the

SDP leader, David Owen. Mr Ancram said: "We are putting into place the team which we hope will huild a successful platform for the next MORE THAN 3,500 foreign



Freud's £2.8m portrait breaks European record

A PORTRAIT by Britain's BY KATE WATSON-SMYTH foremost figurative artist, Lucian Freud, has become the most expensive contemporary painting sold in Europe.

The painting, which shows brown sofa that features in so she said. much of his work, sold at 22,806,500 - more than double its expected price of £1.2m.

Freud's reputation as one of the biggest names of late 20thcentury art was confirmed his feet in.' acrie this year when his the por Large Interior, W11, which featured members of bis family, was sold at auction in New York for £3.5m - the highest price he has achieved

Cbeyenne Westphal, director of contemporary art at Sotheby's, said Naked Portrait with Reflection was one of Freud's best paintings and an excellent example of the

very typical and the hrown sofa is one of his favourite props and he uses it again a woman lying on the familiar and again in his paintings,"

"He likes to work at night Sothehy's in London for and his work tends to be lit by artificial light, as this is. But as far as we know this is the only painting where he has included birnself by putting

> The portrait - painted in 1980 - was sold to anonymous buyer and Ms Westphal said bidding was fierce. "There were four collectors

still in at the £2m level and the price rose very quickly. "We bave seen an enor-

mous increase in Freud's popularity this year with record prices set at the last three auctions of his work.

"He has global appeal and his work is collected around



Lucian Freud: Enormous increase in popularity

the world. To my mind, Freud is the best living figurative

Freud. 75, is notoriously choosy about his subjects, preferring laundy, Liends and some of the characters cluhs he frequents to formal

He is said to have turned down the chance to paint the Queen, the Pope and Diana, Princess of Wales, although he did paint a heavily pregnant Jerry Hall.

Freud dismissively says of all his sitters that he is "really only interested in them as

Married twice, he has had numerous lovers and an uncertain number of children, including the novelists Rose Boyt and Esther Freud and the fashioo designer Bella Freud.

The previous European record for a contemporary work was £2.5m in April 1990 for La Calipette, a painting by French artist Jean Dubuffet.

The most expensive contemporary painting to be sold was a work entitled Interwhich fetched £12.9m at Sothechanced upon in the London by's in New York in 1989.

³ Woman told to be a racist wins case

A WHITE woman who quit ber BY IAN BURRELL new joh as a vehicle hire receptionist after only two days because she objected to her employers' colour bar against black and Asian customers was a victim of racial discrimination in the workplace, portant victory in the battle the Court of Appeal ruled

Three judges upheld earlier decisions that Veronica Sargent was constructively dismissed hands of those many employoo racial grounds and was en- ees that are not prepared to titled to £5,000 compensation. stand for an employer who ex-They rejected the employer's argument that a white person could not be the victim of a policy that discriminated against other races. Lord Justice Swinton Thomas said that the intention of the Act was to deter racial discrimination.

Lord Justice Pill said that Ms Sargent was placed in "an outrageous and embarrassg position" when she was fold the company bad a "special policy regarding coloured and Asians".

The Cardiff company Weath-ersfield Ltd, then trading as Van & Truck Rentals, told Ms Sargent: "We have got to be care-If you get a telephone call from ment, Mrs Sargent was disany coloured or Asians you criminated against on racial can usually tell them by the sound of their voice. You have to tell them there are no vehi-

cles available." A "stunned" Ms Sargent worked on the desk for two days in April 1996, but was so upset by the policy that she decided she could not continue and walked out.

arcedon ^{an}

Home Affairs Correspondent

Yesterday, the Commission for Racial Equality said that the Court of Appeal's ruling in Ms Sargent's favour was an im-

against discrimination. A spokesman for the commission, Chris Myant, said: "This will strengthen the pects them to act in a discriminatory way."

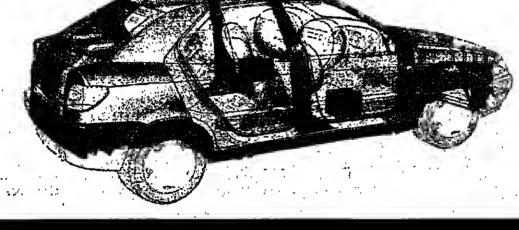
Ms Sargent first took her employer to a Cardiff industrial trihunal under the Race Discrimination Act and won. She fought off the company's challeoge in the Employment Appeal Tribunal, and won her case again yesterday in the Court of Appeal.

The Court of Appeal judges rejected the employer's argument that discriminatory treatment on racial grounds must relate to the race of the complainant, and not to that of a third party.

Lord Justice Swinton ful who we hire the vehicles to. Thomas said: "In my judgegrounds, albeit that the unlawful instruction in relation to race concerned others of a different racial group to her." Lord Jus-

tice Beldam agreed. The company was refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords, although it could still apply directly to the law lords for leave.





What gives Claudia Schiffer confidence?





BT phone booths link to Internet

which you can surf the Web will appear on Britain's high streets from next March, in what British Telecom describes as an attempt to encourage an

"online society". The company is to set up 2,500 multimedia phone booths, equipped with a normal phone hut also a 10in touch-sensitive screen in the centre of the unit. Using them, people will be able to pick a free e-mail address from BT, download or print their e-mail from many other internet accounts, and view webusing a phone or credit card.

the first booths, which are now being tested to see how well they resist vandalism, are rail- years ago. way stations, motorway service stations and shopping malls. They will look much like ordinary BT phone booths, hut with a screen that turns on when the phone is picked up.

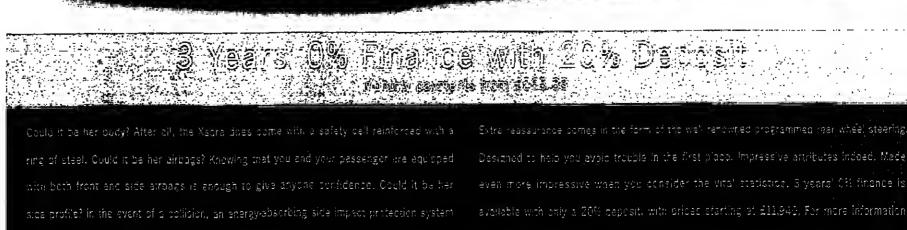
Instead of a keyboard, there will be pictures of keys on the screen, which can be typed on. said a spokesman.

TELEPHONE BOOTHS from By Charles Arthur Technology Editor

> The booths will also use a special weh-hrowser program, which is being developed for this use by BT and another company. However, neither Microsoft nor Netscape, whose programs are best known to PC users of the Web, are understood to be involved.

John Swingewood, director of BT Internet services, said the booths "will bring all the benefits of the Internet to the general public". This year has sites on a pay-as-you-go basis already seen a sharp rise in the number of Britons connected to The most likely venues for the Internet, with the total number of users estimated at 9 million - double that of two

> BT said the new booths will allow people to pick up e-mail from BT or web-based services without having to carry a computer with them. "The point about the Internet is not the technology, it's the information that you can get out of it,"



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helps to transfer the force of the impact away from the occupants. Or could it be her reor?







THE INDEPENDENT Friday 11 December 1998

DNA test rules out Caroline suspect

THE HUNT for the killer of Car-oline Dickinson, the schoolgirl

BY JASON BENNETTO
Crime Correspondent who was murdered in France more than two years ago, has suffered yet another setback after a DNA test cleared a sus-

pect yesterday.
The latest development adds to the growing number of false leads and blunders in an investigation that appears to be no nearer catching Caroline's killer, despite two separate inquiries by the French authorities over the past 29 months.

Yesterday's disappointment involved a homeless man in his 30s who was arrested in Marseille on Wednesday after he was said to bear a resemblance to a photofit of the suspected killer reissued last month.

But the French police announced yesterday that a DNA sample from the man had proved a negative match and that he had been released.

He was arrested a week after it was revealed that de-

tectives investigating 13-year-old Caroline's murder were examining possible links with the rape of a teenage girl in eastera France three years earlier. The girl told police that a photofit of the suspect in the Caroline investigation bore a resemblance to the man who had raped her at knife-point in Nancy in May 1993.

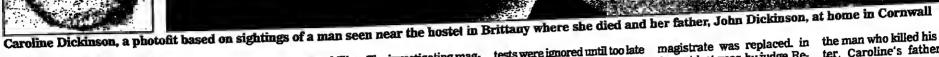
The rape victim described her attacker as a "caveman", with long dark hair covering his ears, a broad forehead, flat nose and hushy eyebrows.

Caroline was raped and suffocated with a pillow on 18 July 1996 in the room she was sharing with four schoolfriends at a youth hostel in Pleine Fougeres in Brittany while on a trip from Launceston College in Cornwall.

The possible link emerged after police investigating Car-







of an unshaven, hushy-browed man with long, untidy hair. It neral parlour in the town in was based on sightings of a man ' 1995, a year before Caroline's near the hostel.

In a separate development, French police are still investigating a claim that an Englishman resembled the artist's impression of the suspected killer. Pierre Rabin, an undertaker in Calais, told police that

killing. The investigating magoline's murder issued a photofit the picture is similar to a cus-of an unshaven, hushy-browed the case tomer who called in at his fuclosed, saying Patrice Pade, 41, had confessed. But DNA testing proved him death. He gave police a photo-

copy of the man's passport.

Despite this possible sightthorities were later forced to pay damages of Fr10,000 (about ing, the French investigation appears to be making slow progress. Two days after the murder, the police arrested a a succession of hlunders. DNA man in connection with the

£1,000) for false imprisonment. Over the next few months the murder hunt was dogged by

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innocent too and the French au-

because they were considered "too expensive", potentially vital witness statements were missed because they had not been translated into French, and door-to-door inquiries in and around Pleine Fougeres were barred for fear of "dis-

turbing the local community". After complaints hy Caroline's parents the investigating

ARISTON

tests were ignored until too late magistrate was replaced. in August last year, hy judge Renaud Van Ruymbeck. Since then more than 2,000 DNA tests have been done.

Police have also been searching for a French man who told tourists in the Republic of Ireland in July that he had fled his home country and

could not return. Despite the failure to catch

the man who killed his daughter, Caroline's father, John Dickinson, 42, said yesterday: "I am sure it will be through one of these new leads that there will be a major hreakthrough.

"I do not have any negative criticisms to make about the police any more, the new team are doing a sterling joh and are really determined to catch Caro-

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for slam-door rail carriages ABOUT 2,000 train carriages of BY PHILIP THORNTON Transport Correspondent the type involved in the Clapham crash, in which 35 people died, will have to be replaced

End in sight

or severely modified by 2003, it was announced yesterday. The recommendation from the Health and Safety Executive, which will order the removal of all Mark I stock by 2007, will be handed to the Government next week. If will then be laid before Parliament and, if no MP objects, become law.

The executive said the modifications would cost £10,000 per carriage, a total of £200m. Replacement would he more

However, train companies will be given more time to introduce central locking on the stock, known as slam-door, where each can he opened from the inside, even when the train is moving. In the 12 months to March two people fell

from moving trains. The move came as the executive's annual report showed the number of people killed on the railways had almost douhled in the past year from 25 to 48. But significant train accidents fell from 105 to 89, the lowest yet. Vandalism accounted for 59 per cent of all accidents. compared with 51 per cent the previous year. Assaults on rail staff rose from 267 to 335, which the executive said could be at-

tributed, in part, to "rail rage". The main element of the proposed modification to the rolling stock is to add a device that prevents one train riding on top of the other in a collision by interlocking the trains to gether - known as "cup and

The executive has done a test involving a train hitting a stationary carriage at 35mph a replica of the circumstances at Clapham on 12 December 1998, 10 years ago tomorrow.

Frank Davies, chairman of the Health and Safety Commission, which advises the Government on policy, said: "This excellent crash test res should clear the way forward for the HSC to send a proposal for new regulations, which will deal with the future of Mark I rolling stock - and a train protection system - to ministers before Christmas."

Vic Coleman, the Chief Inspector of Railways, added: "The cup and cone device offers a relatively inexpensive alternative to rebodying or replacement and would greatly reduce the number and severity of casualties in the event of Stagecoach investments. a head-on collision."

Business, page 23



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The Boss regains control of his work

THE VENUE was packed and the crowd waited with bated breath hut, when "The Boss" made his entrance, there was only a rustle of papers and a

ripple of whispers. Instead of the rock stadiums he is used to, a besuited Bruce Springsteen was appearing in the sombre environs of the High Court, where he learnt yesterday that he had won his fight against a company he accused of selling his music without copyright.

The American rock star, known worldwide since the Eighties as "The Boss", gave a modest smile when the judge granted him an injunction preventing Masquerade Music from releasing an album of his songs written 26 years ago.

He had claimed that he owned the copyright to the songs and Masquerade's attempt to claim ownership and release the recordings was an attack on his artistic integrity. After the hearing, Mr

Springsteen said: "I did not

BY KATE WATSON-SMYTH

way you shape your career. It is a big part of what you say and the way that you say it."

At the hearing in October, his counsel, Nigel Davis QC, told the court that the early recordmgs, which had never been released legitimately because Mr Springsteen considered them sub-standard, were valuable because of the singer's massive following around the world.

Mr Springsteen told the court of his hand-to-mouth existence in the early days of his career when he had nowhere to live and relied on handouts from his management team. But when his third album,

Born To Run, was released in 1975, The Boss, who was brought up in a poor neighbourhood in New Jersey, decided to regain control of his career, "I realised I didn't own any of my music. If I had written a book, I wouldn't have been able to quote a line from my own music... it was not so come here for the money, I much about money. I was concame here for the music. The cerned with full control of my music, which I have been for 25

here today," he said.

Mr Springsteen was also awarded his £500,000 court costs against Masquerade and Mr Justice Ferris allowed him to seek damages of £2m against Robert Tringham, the man who ran the now defunct Flute International Ltd, who was also found to have infringed copyright of some of the songs. Flute, which was not pursued in the action because it is in compulsory liquidation, released the Springsteen songs on albums entitled Unearthed

Masquerade imported 75 Firme last year and "threatened to release many further copies of this disc", the judge said.

and Unearthed II in 1996.

Outside the courtroom, Mr Springsteen said he had come to defend his music and he would not besitate to do so again. "It is something I have fought for since I was young. It is the music that you write alone with your guitar when you are sitting in your room late at



Bruce Springsteen leaving the High Court after obtaining an injunction preventing the release of early recordings



The nematode's entire genetic layout has been unrave. Worm's turn to aid human gene project

IT MAY be only a worm but to BY STEVE CONNOR scientists it is a milestone in understanding the genetic causes of human cancer and ageing. Scientists have for the first time unravelled the entire genetic bluepriot of an animal, a nematode, 1mm long and con-

sisting of fewer than 1,000 cells. Sequencing the genetic code of Caenorhabditis elegans, one of the simplest known multicellular organisms, is a landgenetic make-up of humans.

entists to identify common genes. They can use the worm to examine their function and two decades and £15m to unformation to 'read' a worm is in this sequence and we've got it," said John Sulston, director of the Sanger Centre in Cam- said. bridge, which spearheaded the

British end of the project. C elegans is important for medical researchers because it has tissue and organs similar to humans such as a gut, Sulston said. "It is a microcosm of humanity. Now we have a better understanding of how an anway closer to knowing how the human body works."

A joint research team, fund-

Science Editor

ed by Britain's Medical Research Council and America's National Institutes of Health. publish details of the research today in the journal Science. The full sequence will be available on the Internet.

The scientists estimate the compared with the 80,000 to mark in the quest to unravel the 100,000 that make up the human genome. About 40 per Comparing the worm and cent of the nematode's genes uman sequences enables sci- are closely related to those found in humans, said Jonathan Hodgkin, from the council's laboratory of molecto draw conclusions about the ular biology in Cambridge. An genetic causes of human dis- area of interest is how nemaorders. The entire genetic code tode genes carry out controlled of the nematode contains 100 cell death, a phenomenon commillion letters and took an in- mon to all multicellular animals ternational team of scientists and which goes awry in cancer.

"If we could control cell ravel. "It's all there; all the in- death in a tumour we'd have a venting death," Dr Hodgkin

The nematode, which grows from one cell to 1,000 in three days, is also helping scientists to understand the forces behind human ageing. "It is something you can study very easinerves, muscles and skin, Dr ly in the worm because the animal only lives for two Genes controlling ageing in C elegans have been isolated and are being studied to locate and understand similar genes

CUSTONIES - School assistants in 'dead-end' jobs

CLASSROOM ASSISTANTS. BY JUDITH JUDD whose numbers are to be boost- Education Editor ed by 20,000 on the insistence of the Prime Minister, have room assistants is to be inbadly paid, insecure, dead-end creased to 77,000. jobs, according to a report pub-

sistants earn less than £7,000 a year for working up to 25 hours time clearing up the paint pots a week says a study from the or cutting out shapes for the National Foundation for Edu-maths lesson. More than threecation Research. Their pro- quarters are involved in teachmotion prospects are poor and ing or working with small many have to pay for their training. But they are playing an increasingly important role in outside the classroom. Most are the Government's efforts to white women in their thirties raise standards, says Unison, and just over half have perma-Britain's biggest union, which nent contracts.

commissioned the research. cently that the number of class-sistants in 548 schools.

The research points out that the traditional role of the class-Four out of five classroom as- room assistant is changing. Most no longer spend their

The survey report is based Tooy Blair announced re- on questionnaires from 767 as-

12/HOME NEWS

Ministers in £100m 'war' on smoking

MORE THAN £100m will be By JEREMY LAURANCE spent in the next three years in a "war" against tobacco involving a two-pronged drive to help more smokers quit and ensure fewer Britons take up the habit, Frank Dobson, the Secretary of State for Health, announced yesterday.

The widely trailed White Paper Smoking Kills signals a large increase in anti-tobacco pub and botel trade to increase advertising, new "stop-smoking clinics" with free nicotine patches on offer to the poor and a han on billhoard tobacco advertising to be introduced in the current session of Parliament, smoking at work. which will take effect "as soon as practicable". A ban on tobacco advertising in the press may be imposed at the same expressed no fears about foltime, subject to consultation. lowing them, Mary Curnock "Tobacco advertising is going to end and it is going to end soon,"

Mr Dobson told the Commons. Ministers have sought to strike a balance between

what the Health Secretary said was the "principal avoidable cause of premature deaths in Britain" and "nannying" re-strictions on individual liberty.

There is no ban on smoking in public places, but there is a voluntary agreement with the no-smoking areas, backed by the threat of legislation if it does not work. A code of practice similar to the highway code is to be introduced to restrict

The British Institute of Innkeeping welcomed the "sensible" proposals last night and Cook, the director, said research showed that providing no-smoking areas in pubs and restaurants was good for husiness. "The industry recognises

an "excessive reliance on prosays you can't smoke in pubs," tocols, charters and codes of However, the British Medical practice instead of firm regu-Association described the fail-

latory action". ure to ban smoking in the work-Clive Bates, director of the placa as "deeply disappointing" anti-smoking pressure group and criticised the White Paper Ash, said a voluntary agreefor adopting a "more tentative ment that worked was preferand less courageous approach able to a long political fight over legislation for a ban. "It is Dr Ian Bogle, the chairman, so much better to have co-

stripped to the bone.

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operation that makes progress, rather than both sides digging in for trench warfare." Mr Dobson said measures

bacco sales to peopleunder 16. with stricter policing. Shopkeepers who persistently broke the law risked being banned from selling tobacco.

Advertising in shops will be minimal and vending machines poor will be able to try replace-

Young people will also be the

subject of a three-year, £50m anti-smoking campaign. Cursuch campaigns. The tobacco industry spends £28.7m on advertising each year.

Up to £60m will be spent on nantly in deprived areas. The

free supply of nicotine patches.

The success of the measures will be assessed against would be introduced to curb to- rently, 23m is spent per year on new targets for reducing smoking over the next decade from 13 per cent to 9 per cent of children, from 28 per cent to 24 per cent of adults and from stop-smoking clinics, predomi- 23 per cent to 15 per cent of

pregnant women. The Tobacco Manufactur-

the White Paper - with the exception of the measures aimed at children smoking - as "an affront to legitimate commercial and personal freedoms [which]

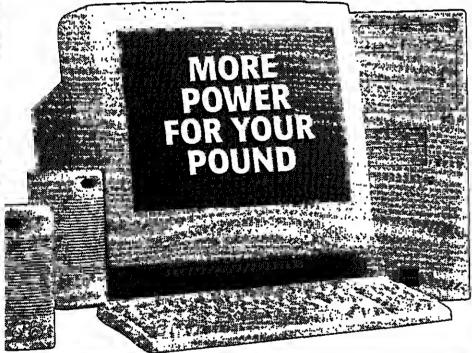
the nanny state". ■ Tessa Jowell the Health minister, is to launch a new magazine for smokers trying to quit called Stop! next month.

reflect the unacceptable face of

Health minister Tessa Jowell with anti-smoking contest winners at Our Lady of Victories school, Putney, London. Children are the focus of a £50m anti-tobacco drive ers' Association condemned will be inaccessible to children. ment therapy with a week's No one wants legislation that said the White Paper betrayed

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Suspended GP 'unable to take blood pressure'

A TRAINEE GP who could not BY GLENDA COOPER even measure blood pressure correctly has become the first doctor to be suspended under new rules to weed out incompetent practitioners.

Doctor Arefaine Haile was suspended from practice for two months by the General Medical Council's Committee on Professional Performance.

The British Medical Association said the announcement showed that the profession was atting its house in order after a series of highly publicised cases of medical malpractice and ahuse. It urged the Government to move more quickly to tighten self-regulation.

Until July 1997, the GMC could only take action against doctors who were found guilty of serious professional misconduct - such as seducing a patient - or who were too ill to carry on. The performance measures were introduced to take action against doctors who were simply not up to the job.

Concerns about Dr Haile were raised during his traineeship on a vocational scheme in Yorkshire and he was provided with extra training and monitoring. But despite efforts to help him, in November 1997 he was dismissed from his post and referred to the GMC.

Four assessors, three medical and one lay made a full exSocial Affairs Correspondent amination of Dr Haile's practice

in July 1998, which was submitted to the GMC in September. The assessors found his performance was unacceptable or gave cause for concern in standards of clinical care, treatment of patients in emergencies, keeping up-to-date and working with colleagues or in teams. His physical examinations were frequently insufficient and he was unable to perform basic procedures such as giving injections.

"On the evidence available to them ... [the committee] consider he is unfit to practise." the GMC said yesterday. Dr Haile has the right to appeal.

Dr Ian Bogle, chairman the BMA Council, said there was a need for robust systems to be in place locally to regulate quality of care and enable action to be taken as soon as things went wrong.

"It is a medical crime to witness a colleague underperforming and do nothing about it," Dr Bogle said.

"The culture of hiding the truth or being afraid to speak out must change. It is not good for doctors, it is not good for nurses or health service managers and it is certainly not good for patients."

IN BRIEF

Girl arrested over baby's death

A GIRL of 12 has been arrested by police over the death of a 16-month-old girl she was believed to have been haby-sitting. Police said the girl was questioned on Saturday and released on police bail. The haby died in a Manchester hospital on Monday. A post-mortem examination found the baby had a skull fracture.

IRA inmates to be sent to Ireland

FIVE IRA members serving long jail terms in England for terrorist offences, including attacks on Heathrow airport and other bombs in London, are to serve the remainder of their sentences in the Irish Republic. The transfer follows talks in London last month between Home Secretary, Jack Straw, and the Irish Justice Minister, John O'Donoghue.

Pilot misjudged aircraft's weight

THE TAIL of a holiday airliner carrying 300 passengers scraped along Manchester airport runway on landing in May because the captain had miscalculated the plane's weight, an accident report said yesterday. The plane was operated by Dublin's Aer Turas for Britannia Airways.

New Year strikes on Underground

London Underground is to be hit by 24-hour strikes between 11am on New Year's Eve and 11am on New Year's Day and again between 7pm on Sunday. 3 January and 7pm on 4 January in a dispute over joh security.

STEVE RICHARDS



How long can Blair be a good European and refuse to cave in?

IN THE FRIDAY REVIEW

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Race relations 'damaged by outcry over asylum seekers'



PUBLIC HYSTERIA over a perceived threat to Britain from the recent influx of asylum seekers could cause lasting damage to race relations, charities said

The warnings came as a hotel where a group of asylum seekers was boused confirmed yesterday it had been besieged with complaints from guests and the public.

The public hostility followed a front-page story in The Sun, headlined "Inn-sane", which condemned the decision to allow 21 Romanian women and child refugees to spend a night in the hotel.

The refugees stayed at the £65-a-night Inn on the Lake, near Gravesend in Kent, after they were discovered among a group of 103 people packed into a goods lorry at the container terminal at Dartford.

The hotel, concerned by the effects of the bad publicity, is planning legal action against Kent County Council, which has moved the asylum seekers under police guard to a secret location. The male Romanians are being held in a detention centre.

Charities working with refugees said last night that animosity towards refugees had reached levels not witnessed in

They blamed tabloid newspapers and immigration service officials for colluding in an anti-



immigrant campaign. Sherman Carroll, of the Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture, said: "There's no doubt that the general climate of fear and hatred they are trying to create against asylum seekers is having a negative effect on the rehabilitation of torture survivors.

The number of refugees heading for Britain appears to be on the increase.

The Immigration Service Union predicted yesterday that more asylum seekers than the previous annual record of 45,000 in 1995 would reach Britain this year. With the Government's Im-

migration and Asylum Bill promising a crackdown on immigration - only weeks away, a propaganda war is being waged between hard-pressed immigrahion officers concerned by the influx of economic migrants and groups that believe more sympathy should be shown to

Seizing on the debate, tabloid newspapers have run a series of articles complaining that "gypsies" and refugees have been allowed hospital treatment and "luxury" accommodation. The Daily Moil last week ran a front-page ex-



The Inn on the Lake in Kent (top) where refugees enjoy an English breakfast (left) before being moved out after complaints Gary Stone

the asylum seekers". Part of the difficulty for refugee charities is that many recent immigrants have arrived not from war-zones, but fleeing racial persecution.

The public sympathy that existed for the victims of conflict in Rwanda and Bosnia dertaken by refugees under the gypsy immigrants from said: "The reason we have an sight of gypsy immigrants beg-

the headline "Brutal crimes of Romania, Slovakia and the Czecb Republic. Refugees from Eastern Eu-

ropean are still outnumbered by those from Africa and the Middle East, but they have been painted as "economic migrants", casting doubts on the veracity of all asylum seekers.

Nick Hardwick, chief execu-

obligation to these people is that In the Thirties, when the gypsies fled the Nazis, they were turned back at the borders and ended up in concentration camps. The international com-

munity said that it should never

happen again."

Privately, refugee groups admit their cause is not helped pose of criminal activities un- has not been so forthcoming for tive of the Refugee Council, by the increasingly common are having to bear the costs,

ging on the streets of London. Alasdair Mackenzie, the co-

ordinator of Asylum Aid, predicted that public antipathy towards asylum seekers would grow as the Government pursued its policy of dispersing them to towns and cines around the country.

He said: "Local authorities which leads to local papers

Yorkshire Bank

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Yorkshire Bank

Tailored financial solutions

But John Tincey, of the Immigration Service Union, said yesterday that his colleagues were being overwhelmed.

He called for new reception centres to be created to give sbelter to asylum seekers and said potential economic migrants could be dissuaded by preventing them from earning money in this country.

Accident trauma persists in young

BY JEREMY LAURANCE Health Editor

MORE THAN 20,000 children involved in road accidents each year suffer post-traumatic stress disorder that is going largely unrecognised, researchers say.

The symptoms, which must last at least a month to qualify for the diagnosis, include nightmares, sleep disturbance, separation anxiety intrusive thoughts and difficulty talking to pareots and friends. Onethird of the 70,000-plus young people under 19 involved in road accidents each year are thought to be affected.

The findings suggest that such victims are just as much in need of psychological help and support as those involved in bigger incidents and disas-

ters, but are not getting it. Doctors from the Royal United hospital in Bath, who studied 119 people aged from 7 to 19 involved in road accidents last year, found that they were much more likely to experience posttraumatic stress disorder than victims of sports injuries. The reaction was as severe in those who suffered minor injuries as in those seriously injured, suggesting that pre-existing psychological factors play a role.

Dr Paul Stallard and colleagues say in the British Medical Journal that there is increasing evidence that chil-dren are affected in a similar way to adults. The idea that children quickly get over traumatic events is no longer sustainable.

They found that girls were more prone to the disorder than boys and those affected suffered symptoms severe enough to interfere with their daily lives. Of the 119 children, 41 were affected compared with two out of 66 children who suffered sporting accidents.

However, if counselling were offered, it would not necessarily be taken up. The researchers say they gave the family of each affected child a telephone number to contact if they wanted help but only two used it.

Woman, 62, jailed for poisoning neighbours

A WOMAN who tried to poison elderly mother's next door neighbours was jailed for six years yesterday.

June Cronin-Simpson, 62, showed no emotion when she was sentenced at Bristol Crown Court by Judge Peter Thomas, who described her as a "potentially very dangerous lady".

Cronin-Simpson, who was appearing for sentence after being convicted in early November on three charges of causing a noxious substance to be administered, had Sefused to co-operate in a psychiatric assessment.

The court was told that Cronin-Simpson, of Yeovil, Somerset, drilled holes in the neighbour's walls and inserted piping to pour a mixture of petrol and chemicals into the

nice Pin e death

The judge, who jailed "exceptionally dangerous".

jail her because she refused the psychiatric assessment.

assessments we had no option but to impose an immediate

elderly mother, also in Yeovil, at the time of the attack.

Cronin-Simpson for six years on each count, the sentences to run concurrently, said that what she had done was He had no alternative but to

Judge Thomas said: Because of her failure to cooperate with the medical

He said it was fortunate that no ignition had taken place in the home of Julian Geard, his wife Joyce and their 18-year-old daughter Rosemary, who were living next door to Cronin-Simpson's

Cronin-Simpson: 'A very

The poison attacks on her mother's neighbours were apparently motiveless, as the Geards scarcely knew Cronin-Simpson. The family was mystified by the incidents.

Geard had noticed a mixture dribbling down the walls of his bathroom in December 1997.

He later went into his loft to find that four smoke bombs -designed to kill moles and rats had been put in the roof space, causing charring of insulation materials. Cronin-Simpson was ar-

rested two days later and sectioned for some weeks under the Mental Health Act. Malcolm Galloway, for the

defence, said in mitigation that a psychiatrist who examined Cronin-Simpson in October could find no evidence of mental disorder. While on remand in prison she had proved a model prisoner, he said, and fortunately no one was seriously injured by her attacks. Cronin-Simpson's 85-year-old mother is now in care.

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MILLENNIUM BUG WATCH

WOULD IT be a good idea or a bad idea for Hollywood to make a film about the mil-lennium bug? It probably depends who you are.

Earlier this year, Warner Bros bought the screenplay for a film tentatively titled Y2K (the acronym for "year 2000"). It was described by those who had seen the script as "something like Deep Impact [in which a meteor hits the Earth], with the year 2000 in the background". Stu Zicherman, who wrote the screenplay, was justifiably excited at the deal: "In any movie, you're looking at a ticking clock, and this is the greatest licking clock ever. It's one of the few deadlines in the history of the

world you can't push back." However, things have heen a little quiet since, tempting some to suggest that Warner Bros has been leant upon by Washington experts who do not want peo-



ple too worried about computers crashing everywhere. But some sources are suggesting that it is not conspiracy at all - and that Mr Zicherman was more correct than he realised.

The film executives have realised that if the film was released in the US in the autumn of 1999, as planned, then it would not reach its other English-speaking markets (such as Britain) for another three or four months - that is, after its watch-by date. A slightly less time-dependent treatment is now thought to be in

CHARLES ARTHUR

Curry colourings threaten health

TAKEAWAY CURRY houses could be damaging customers' health by using illegal amounts of food colouring, according to trading standards officers.

Although a small amount of artificial colouring does no harm, too much can cause hyper-activity, skin rashes or breathing difficulties.

Trading standards officers who surveyed takeaways across Yorkshire found that 27 per cent of them served curries that contained more than the permitted amount of tartrazine (E102), sunset yellow (E110) or ponceau (E124). In the worst cases, levels were three or four times the legal limit.

Councillor Barry Midwood,

chairman of West Yorkshire's

trading standards committee,

said: "I urge them to take heed

of the warnings, otherwise some may face significant fines

when this exercise is repeated."

BY NICK DRAINEY

One restaurateur said it was unnecessary to add colourings if food was prepared properly. Mohammed Aslam, manag-

ing director of the Aagrah Group of restaurants, said: "I believe Indian cooking should be authentic. Tomato powder, red chillies and turmeric should give sufficient colour. Takeaways need educating not to use artificial colours excessively and customers should

ask if they have been used." Trading standards officers are due to take enforcement action against some premises using too much artificial colour.

Rotherham and Doncaster came out worse in the survey - but in the York, East Riding and North Lincolnshire council areas all the takeaway food shops passed all the colouring, hygiene and quality tests.

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Civil war rips apart Le Pen's party



The National Front leader. Jean-Marie Le Pen, confronting a demonstrator while campaigning

JEAN-MARIE Le Pen's Nation- BY JOHN LICHFIELD al Front imploded yesterday. The most successful far-right party in Western Europe, a baleful force on the French and European political landscape for 14 years, ceased to exist as a unified movement.

Amid vicious recrimination, in which Mr Le Pen accused one of his daughters of "family betrayal", the NF hroke into two mutually loathing factions, each claiming to be the true standard-bearer of the French ultra-right

Ending weeks of clandestine civil war, Mr Le Pen, 70, finally moved directly against Bruno Mégret, the increasingly powerful second force in the Front. He suspended him from his job as delegate general of the party and accused him of "crimes against the NF and against France". He also repeated on national television his accusation that Mr Mégret's supporters were "racists" and "extremists", in effect conceding something he has always nied: that the NF feeds on

in Paris

sents a more managerial, modernising as well as deeply xeno-phobic force in the NF, refused to accept his dismissal. He will go shead with plans to call an emergency conference next month when those who attend will, doubtless, elect him as president of a kind of Provisional Wing of the NF. "My relations with Jean-Marie Le Pen are suspended," he said.
Mr Le Pen, NF president

since its creation in 1972, remains in control of party headquarters in the Paris suburb of St-Cloud, from which all Megret supporters were ejected on Wednesday night. But Mr Mégret claims, perhaps with some exaggeration, to have the backing of more than half the local and regional bodies of the party and substantial support among grassroots NF voters.

He may also have a lot of dirt on Mr Le Pen, who was reported to be incandescent, and alarmed, to discover Mégret sympathisers had been downloading information from the



Bruno Megret: Likely to start a breakaway party

Saint-Clond computers in recent days. Mr Le Pen had ordered all NF bank accounts to be frozen two days ago. The opaque finances of the Front and the sources of his lavish lifestyle have always been mysteriously entwined.

The Le Pen-Mégret showdown, long expected, is partly generational, partly tactical. It is also a question of personal ambitions and clan hatreds within the Front, which has always been an extraordinary coalition of antagonistic groups high Catholics, pagans, Vichy sympathisers, colonial nostalgics, extreme nationalists, Europhobes and outright racists). Mr Megret supporters, mostly young or middle-aged, believe they can release the party from the ideological ghetto created by Mr Le Pen and form electoral alliances that would bring far-right ideas, and themselves, into the mainstream of French politics and government. Mr Le Pen and his supporters, including most of the old guard but also many younger activists, accuse the Mégretistes of being prepared to trade the party's ideological purely for a few cabinet posts.

Most of all, perhaps, the struggle is about Mr Le Pen's refusal to accept he is growing old and that the success and growth of the NF mean it is no onger his personal fiefdom. The schism cuts through the heart of his family. On television on Wednesday he accused Marie-Caroline, the eldest of his three daughters, of "betraying her family" by being linked to one of the leaders of sedition". She lives with one of Mr Mégret's lieutenants, Philippe Olivier, and has tended towards the Megret side in recent days.

There is bitter irony here. The internal crisis in the NF office because of his assault on socialist female candidate during last year's parliamentary elections, "Papa" was campaigning for, and alongside. Marie-Caroline at the time.

Is this the end of the National Front? Should all democrats and anti-racists rejoice? No and yes. The far right is a rooted presence in the political psyche of France; its strength has tended however to wax

and wane with internal solits and quarrels. This week's events may well mark the start of the end of the Le Pen era and halt the slow rise of far-right influence, which began with Mr Le Pen's big breakthrough in the European elections of 1984.

He remains the single most compelling figure of the ultra right and one of the country's few charismatic politicians. He will continue to command a large share of ultra-right votes.

But a long period of ingret will rob him of his image as a man of the people. The effect is likely to be a collapse of the overall far-right vote - up to 15 per cent in recent elections - as non-militant fringe voters drift back to the centre-right and even the Communists. This would transform the French political landscape and, above all, revive the fortunes of President Jacques Chirac and the centre-

Mr Mégret's chances of building a successful countermovement are uncertain. He is a highly intelligent, subtle and presentable politician, even a good orator. But he has none of Mr Le Pen's vulgar humour or rumbustious charm. His only chances of success would seem to be to deliver a knock-out blow against Mr Le Pen, possibly with some startling revelation about the NF's finances or wider neo-fascist European

In the past month Mr Le Pen has been waging a campaign of harassment against Mr Mégret and his supporters, stripping them of many of their responsibilities, even firing several people who worked directly with Mr Megret on spurious cost-cutting grounds. Last weekend Mr Megret struck back. He managed to smuggle his fired and suspended supporters into a meeting of the NF national council. To Mr Le Pen's astonishment. their presence was applauded by a majority of those present. When he ordered them to be ejected from the hall, Mr Le Pen was booed and heckled,

This week the harassment of the Megretistes became a purge, with Mr Le Pen striding the corridors of NF headquarters, suspending or ejecting officials be suspected of pro-Mr Mégret sympathies. -On Wednesday Mr Mégret made what amounted to a first. began when Mr Le Pen was frontal attack on Le Pen's aususpended from seeking public thority, backing his supporters' calls for an extraordinary congress of the party next

> Mr Le Pen had already made clear that anyone who backed such a congress would be regarded as an enemy of the party. Later that night he suspeoded Mr Megret from his job as delegate-general. Calling for such a meeting was "a crime against the NF and above all a crime against France".

month to resolve the quarrel.

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LE PEN'S BETE NOIR

A SMALL, BALDING, vole-like man with an ingratiating smile, Bruno Mégret, 49, makes an unlikely demagogue. He is also an unlikely racist and extreme nationalist. His wife, Catherine, the Mayoress of Vitrolles, near Marseilles, is of Russian-Jewish origin; he is himself

Mr Mégret is a classic French technocratic insider – ex-Ecole Polytechnique, ex-Gaullist - who has brought his undoubted political skills to the NF, the party of the malcontented outsider. Despite his polished manner, enemies within the NF allege that Mr Megret is even more of an extremist than Mr Le Pen, more ideologically racist, more tempted to build philosophical links between the NF and neo-Nazism.

The organisational revolution in the past 10 years, which has transformed the NF from a protest group and a vehicle for Mr Le Pen's personality into a hugely effective grassroots party, is mostly Mr Megret's doing. Hence his strength in the local party machines.

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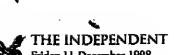
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President should be tried, say charges

WITH AUDIO and video clips, By MARY DEJEVSKY high rhetoric and low cunning, lawyers for and against the impeachment of the President argued their case yesterday at the start of the House judiciary committee's formal debate

As the proceedings opened, the 435 members of the full House were told that they sbnuld prepare to return to Washingtoo next Thursday for their own debate and vote - the ballot to determine whether Bill Clinton stands trial in the Senate for his conduct in the Monica Lewinsky affair.

articles of impeachment - tantamount to judicial charges that Mr Clinton would face in the Senate. To the fury of the White House, the articles had been released by the committee's Republican majority on Wednesday evening, before the White House chief counsel had finished testifying in defence of

the President Two of the articles accuse Mr Clinton of giving "perjurious, false and misleading testimony" in his sworn depositioo in the Paula Jones sexual harassment case and in his grand jury testimony in the Lewinsky

One says he "prevented, obstructed and impeded the administration of justice" by delaying testimony or covering up evidence, and the fourth maintains that he abused his office by lying to his staff in the expectation that they would unwittingly relay the falsehoods in their own sworn statements. Couched in high-flown legal

in Washington

"In all of this, William Jefferson Clinton has undermined the integrity of his office, has brought disrepute on the Presidency. has betrayed his trust as Presideot and has acted in a manner subversive of the rule of law and justice. [He] warrants impeachment and trial, remnval from office and disqualification to hold and enjoy any nffice of bonour, trust or profit under the United States.

In tone, the articles recalled The judiciary committee's the last time, 24 years ago, debate focused on the formal wheo articles of impeachment were drawn up, against President Richard Nixon, But the atmosphere this time could

hardly be more different. Public coocern is minimal and Mr Clinton's job approval rating still stands comfortably above 60 per cent.

The counsel for the Democratic minority, Abbe Lowell, was the first to argue his case yesterday, introducing sworn statements from Mr Clinton, Miss Lewinsky and others to argue that Mr Clinton's only aim in misleading the public and oot being - m his words -"particularly helpful" to the prosecutors was to keep his liaison with Ms Lewinsky secret.

Later, David Schippers for the Republicans, was expected to argue the opposite, displaying for the first time excerpts from Mr Clinton's taped depositioo in the Jones case, to ilhistrate his contention that the President repeatedly perjured himself to evade his responsibilities before the law.



Posters in Jerusalem depicting Bill Clinton in Palestinian head-dress saying 'I am a Palestinian'; others say 'Clinton Go Home'

Arafat's peace gesture for Clinton

YASSER ARAFAT, the Palestinian leader, convened senior officials and legislators yesterday to drop clauses from the Palestinian charter which call for the elimination of Israel, in the run-up to President Bill Clinton's visit to Gaza.

As they did so, thousands of Palestinians marched through the rain in the funeral procession of Jihad Iyad, a 17-year-old stonemason sbot on Wednesday, when there was rioting throughout the West Bank. The rain helped to reduce clashes yesterday between Israeli soldiers and demonstrators calling for the release of 2,400 Palestinian prisoners.

Mr Arafat may also be trying to contain the protests as he prepares to welcome Mr Clin-

BY PATRICK COCKBURN in Jerusalem

ton nn Mnnday. The Israeli hard right sees the visit as de facto recognition of a Palestinian state by the United States. Posters showing Mr Clintoo wearing Palestinian headdress and slogans saying "Clinton, Go Home" are appearing

on walls in Jerusalem. The clauses in the Palestinian charter to which Israel objects are being removed by an elaborate constitutional mechanism whereby the Palestinian Ceotral Council in Gaza yesterday approved a letter from Mr Arafat to Mr Clinton, saying the clauses had been mullified.

Mr Clinton will address the Palestine National Council.

(PNC) in the Shawa Ceotre, a conference hall in Gaza, which will also affirm that clauses have been dropped from the charter. The Palestinians say the clauses were removed in 1996, with the agreement of the US and the previous Israeli government.

Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, says be has ordered security forces to act with "an iron fist" against rioters after clashes this week, which left two Palestinians dead and 150 Palestinians and Israelis injured. "Our duty is to activate the Israeli army and the security element against this trouble in the firmest pos-

Mr Netanyahu says he will wait to see the outcome of the

PNC meeting before deciding if he will attend a meeting with Mr Clinton and Mr Arafat. The Israeli leader wants the PNC to decide by a vote, while Mr Arafat says it will be by acclamation. Yesterday he said: "It is not their [the Israelis] business. We are following our

Another sign of US-Israeli tensioo was an angry response by Mr Netanyahu to a report that William Daley, the US Commerce Secretary, had made an implicit call for fresh elections in Israel. "Hopefully the people of Israel will make their voices beard a little louder in their support for peace," he allegedly said. The US embassy later said Mr Casey was misreported.

At a more personal level, the Clintons are reported by the Israeli press to have declined a meeting with Mr and Mrs Netanyahu. Diplomats say Mrs Clinton is trying to limit the amount of time she will spend with Suha Arafat, fearing she will bave to give equal time to Mrs Netanyahu.

In an effort to stop the rioting on the West Bank, Dennis Ross, the US special envoy, made an implicit appeal yesterday for Israel to modify its refusal to free Palestinian detainees, who are on hunger strike. The rioting began when Israel freed 150 criminals, many of them car thieves, and only 100 security prisocers under the Wye Agreement brokered by Mr Clinton in October | available for comment.

Dogs of war lay down weapons

BY STEVE BOGGAN

EXECUTIVE OUTCOMES, the cootroversial firm of mercenaries, announced yesterday that it was to lay down its weapons and stop intervening in Africa's myriad wars.

After a decade of adventures from Angola to Sierra Leone, and Kenya to Papua New Guinea, the company said that a new found sense of law and order across the cootioent no longer "justify our efforts", an excuse that most military analysts found hard to swallow.

More likely is the reason that the South African-based company realised it would fall full of recent legislation introduced by the Mandela government aimed at curtailing the involvement of South Africans in mercenary activities.

"We bave had some good times and we are proud of what we have achieved," said Nico Palm, EO's director. But, he added: "Over the past two years the majnrity of governments in Africa have endeavoured to secure and maintain law and nrder. The nature nf these efforts do not justify our involvement. I bave gnt a family and after ten years we had enough of it.

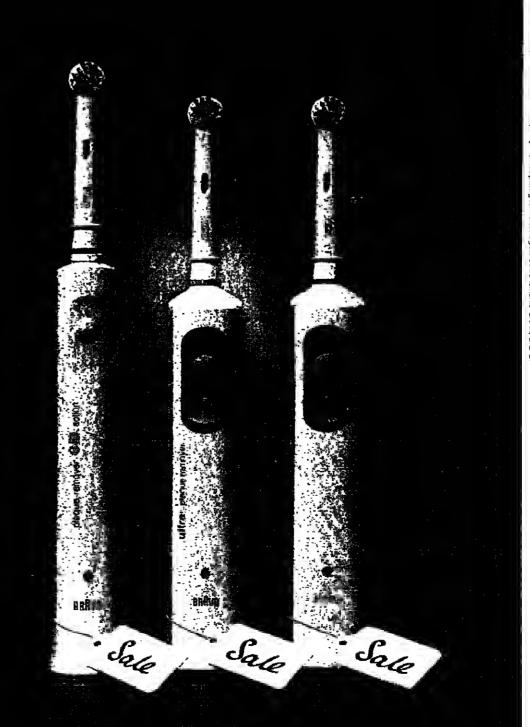
With wars raging across Africa, EO's excuse seemed lame. Indeed, its business may well find its way to the Loodonbased Sandline International Ltd, the military consultancy at the centre of the "arms to Sierra Leone" controversy earlier this year.

Both companies are said to have links with the British businessman Tony Buckingham, a former Special Boat Service

But a spokeswoman for Sandline said yesterday that it had no links with EO and it was "business as usual" for the London-based company. Tim Spicer, the former Army officer who runs Sandline, was not

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16/FOREIGN NEWS

Desperate protest in Russia's Arctic

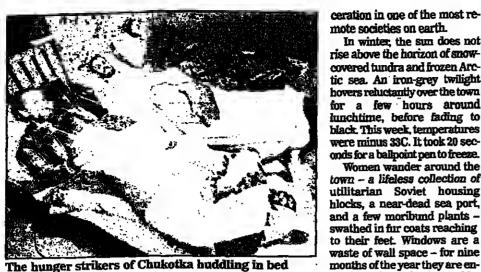
By PHIL REEVES

THE COMPLAINT by Valentina Velichko is no routine industrial gripe. It is not as if she has not been paid for a mere six months - common enough across Russia - or even a full year. No, the last time she received hard cash for her labours as a crane operator in the Arctic was three and a half years ago.

And nor is her protest a routine industrial action. The fact that she and 10 others are on hunger strike is almost academic, since they barely had any food in the first place. A fortnight ago, after they ceased to receive hread, they stopped eating, huddling up in hed against the incredibly severe temperatures outside.

They will, they say, remain there until the authorities take notice. If that means death then so be it, says Ms Velichko, who has weighing scales next to her bed. Her records reveal that the strikers have lost an average of almost a stone each. One has already heen dispatched to hospital.

Ms Velichko belongs to a village outside Pevek, a dying port and restricted border zone rarely visited by Western correspondents. Although it sits on



What would our mothers

think if they knew how hungry

we were?" she asks, tearfully

quoting from a poem she has

continues: "Spare us from ad-

vertising. Our children can't

bear watching Snickers ads on

Here, her story is an all too

familiar one. She was lured to

the Arctic 16 years ago, full of

hope and idealism, by the high rates of pay offered to those will-

ing to work in extreme condi-

tions. Somehow, she never left

at the very heart of the councouple of kilos of meat.

try's economic crisis.

The strikers' job is to service the airport hut now, like 28 villages before it in the huge Chukotka region, their community is being closed down. Although rich in minerals - it has the second largest gold reserves in Russia - Chukotka is fast shedding population.

For the last three years, Ms Velichko, 45, and her colleagues has subsisted on food distributed under otovarka, a chit system in which they receive groceries in lieu of pay. They got the hare minimum; 1kg of rice edge on the Arctic Sea, it lies a month, a similar amount of

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mote societies on earth. In winter, the sun does not rise above the horizon of snowcovered tundra and frozen Arctic sea. An iron-grey twilight hovers reluctantly over the town for a few hours around lunchtime, before fading to black. This week, temperatures were minus 33C. It took 20 seconds for a ballpoint pen to freeze.

Women wander around the town - a lifeless collection of utilitarian Soviet housing hlocks, a near-dead sea port, and a few moribund plants swathed in fur coats reaching to their feet. Windows are a waste of wall space - for nine months of the year they are encrusted with an impenetrable white frost. This is no place for human beings, and many of them know that all too well

Which is one reason so many

are either getting out, or trying to. When they were paid it was written about their plight. It tolerable, hut now almost everyone seems to go unpaid for months. There is food in the shops, but prices are twice that of Moscow, the world's third most expensive city. The hospital is seriously short of medicine and doctors. Shortages of fuel are commonplace. Mys Schmidta, a town 300 miles to the west, is still waiting for a delivery of fuel. It arrived by ship - condemning herself to incarin Pevek days ago, and there it corner of the world, no matter



who will pay for it.

For such reasons, the population of the Pevek area has dropped by two-thirds in seven years, from 34,500 to 12,500, a migration repeated across the Russia north. Chukotka's population has shrunk from 180,000 to 90,000 in the same period, a process encouraged by the anti-Communist governor, Alexander Nazarov.

Mr Nazarov recognises that, after limping on for six decades, the Soviet experiment in social engineering - the arrogant Stalinist belief that man could conquer by colonisation any how harsh - has collapsed, changing the geopolitical map in this vast territory, whose eastern edge is less than a hundred miles from Alaska.

Plenty more would like to leave, hut cannot afford the air ticket, let alone a flat somewhere else, Larisa Kozar, 40, head of the municipal welfare office, has a list of almost 700 families who applied for government assistance to return to the "mainland". Of these, 69 are special category cases -

pensioners, veterans, invalids. But Ms Kozar's organisation, like every other arm of gov-ernment, is hopelessly underfunded: last year, only eight special cases were helped to relocate. She wants out herself. "If you gave me the choice, and housing on the mainland, I would leave too," she said.

The choice is a rare luxury. Most are stranded in what amounts to a prison. The conditions may not be as hellish as those which once prevailed within Pevek's four Gulag camps, set up under Stalin to hold thousands of labouring prisoners. But many of the remaining residents are no less trapped.

What, then, does the future hold? Mr Nazarov is campaigning hard for international

investment, especially in the gold industry which, hampered by a low price and inefficient production, makes a loss. He envisages a new society with a smaller population in which towns become industrial outposts, like North Sea platforms, whose workers come and go.

He claims to have \$600m (£364m) of potential investment waiting for parliament to pass production-sharing laws. He talks of creating a thriving fish-But he admits the inescapable truth: the north is "in a terrible situation". As Ms Velichko and her friends know only too well.

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IN BRIEF

Iraq still blocking UN inspectors IRAQ SAID it stood by its decision to block access for UN

inspectors to the headquarters of Saddam Hussein's Baath Party in Baghdad, warning that if they returned they would be turned away again. The incident is the most serious since 14 November when Iraq averted military action by promising to co-operate with the inspectors.

Entrepreneur 'sought hitman'

ABE HIRSCHFELD, the New York property tycoon who earlier this year offered Paula Jones \$1m to settle her sexual harassment suit against President Bill Clinton, was in custody yesterday facing charges that he sought to hire an assassin to kill a former business partner.

Oldest synagogue identified

THE REMAINS of a stone building in Jerusalem's Old City have been identified as the city's oldest known synagogue, an archaeologist said yesterday. The structure, near the site of the First and Second Temple, was apparently used from AD638 to the eighth century.

MARY DEJEVSKY



Grave dig blocked by Serbs

BY MARCUS TANNER

SERB POLICE in Kosovo blocked international forensic experts yesterday from exbuming a suspected mass grave of about 22 Albanians in the Drenica region of the province.

The victims were killed in Serbia's brutal military campaign to suppress a revolt in the province in the spring by armed militants of the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA).

The stand-off occurred after KLA fighters insisted the 19 forensic experts from Finland had to enter the region without a Serb police escort. The region is a KLA stronghold. Serb police then stopped the convoy be-

fore it entered the area. Albanian families taking advantage of the current truce to return to their homes, meanwhile, have accused Serb forces of poisoning their wells before they pulled out of the province.

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Venice rejects 'Moses' flood barriers

ITALY'S GREENS were yesterday celebrating a ruling by the country's Environment Minstry against the installation of giant mobile flood-barriers on the Venice lagoon.

An environmental impact report gave the thumbs down to the £1.5bn Project Moses, ich is designed to protect lice against high tides and rising sea levels.

The committee outlined four main objections: the project did not meet the objective of reestablishing the environmental equilibrium of the lagoon, it failed to integrate with the other initiatives for the protection of Venice and risked damaging them, and it eotailed significant damage to the port.

The Venezia Nuova consortium, which has designed and would have built the 100ft-high flood barriers, is oow expected to press for the matter to be decided directly by the Italian cabinet, or the Prime Minister.

The committee's report states that despite serious pressure and lobbying by Moses backers, it has been able to maintain its independence," said Venetian Senator Giorgio Sarto, a Green and a town planner.

Those backing Project Moses present it as the only possible solution and invoke apocalyptic scenarios to pusb it through. Anyooe who opposes the floodgates is depicted as BY FRANCES KENNEDY

face the same problems as our ancestors and like them must find ways that don't damage the ecosystem and don't cost the earth," he said.

of high tides.

time as we are doing the main-

tenance and cleaning work,

just as they have done for cen-

turies," said Stefano Boato, a Green member of the Venice

After decades of neglect

several years ago the city ad-

ministration began a clean-up.

Boats with metal arms dredge

the canal floors, pulling up rub-

bish and silt. Forty per cent of

the canals have oow beeo

cubic metres of silt sucked out.

underway in three areas of the

city. In the Ghetto, a half-mile

stretch has been raised by six

inches by inserting a layer of

stone or sand immediately

under the pavement. Residents

are offered grants of up to 80

per cent of the cost of raising

their foundations to match the

ready beeo endorsed in three

special laws for Venice since

nary funds for preserving the city. Only a fraction of those pro-

These initiatives have al

newly elevated "footpath".

Raising the "ground level" is

The Greens and other environmental groups, such as Italia Nostra or Legambiente, have long argued that a series of integrated "soft" measures could reduce the height of the tide reaching Venice by about eight inches. The basic principles are reducing the flow from the Adriatic into the lagoon, creating more space in the lagoon for the water to expand and lift-ing Venice up by adding another layer to its foundations.

They advocate the closure of cleaned, with 110 thousand the Canale di Petrolio, the artificial channel in the lagoon that is used by tankers. They say that its depth creates a passage for extra water to arrive in Venice and accentuates the process of erosion.

Curving the entrance to the lagoon and filling in the holes in the seabed created by erosioo is crucial to further reducing the flow of water," said Mr Sarto, "Freeing up the fish farms and other areas currently sealed off within the lagoon will also allow the water 1973, which provide extraordito expand once inside."

The strategy involves raising the land level of Venice itself.



ibran Theatre has revealed vi-The Italian Public Works rants and boutiques stand on left-wing administration with a

sual proof that Venice has been Ministry first asked for tenders successively raised over the on projects to protect the lagoon centuries to beat the problem city in 1975. As the implications of global warning became "In the lowest parts of the clearer, pressure grew for a way to protect La Serenissima from city we can raise the paveanother devastating flood like meots oo average to 1.2m above sea level at the same that of 1966, and from the in-

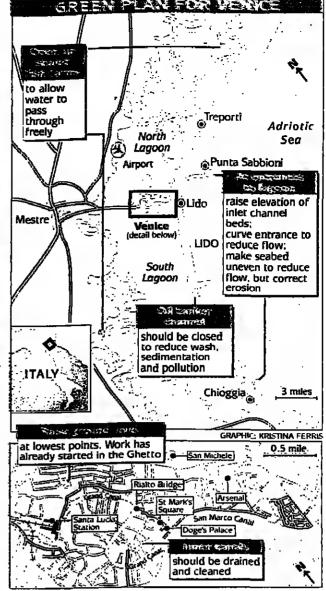
creasingly frequent high tides. St Mark's Square and the surrounding tourist shops, restau-

one of the lowest lying areas in the city and they can be underwater up to 80 times a year.

The environmental thumbsdown for Moses - despite a favourable opinion by a committee of international experts - is likely to receive a mixed reaction in the city itself.

Massimo Cacciari, the mayor of Venice, who heads a

smattering of Greens, has been worried that the project would take government funds away from other important city projects. His red-green administration remains divided, mainly opposing the scheme, but with a vocal lobby arguing that it is better to do something than nothing, after so many years of





visions have been implementwanting to see Venice slak. We Recent digging around the Maled," Mr Boato said. Darkness closes on German tinseltown

EUROPEAN TIMES

BABELSBERG

MEDIEVAL GUARDS waving swords patrol the entrance to the restaurant in the bowels of Europe's greatest dream factory. Upoo admission, the patrons of the Prince Ironheart are given paper aprons for the gargantuan feast that lies ahead: cured ham, pig knuckles and fatty goose, washed down with ample quantities of riesling and a smooth red

from Württemberg. While the digestive system battles with this fare, the viand aural senses are assaulted by a succession of bare-bottomed female fireeaters writhing on stage, followed by a gloriously camp troubadour, and rounded off with blood-curdling sword fights in the aisles. Take your eyes off them at your peril. On the other side of the hall, monochrome monsters snari from a screen fixed to the wall.

Not all of this is real, of course. The troubadour's harp is plugged into an amplifier, the sword-fighters' swords are made of plastic, and maybe even the goose is only an old n. But the hideous ghouls that flicker on the wall are real enough: they are the creations of Fritz Lang and his contemporaries in the golden age of German cinema 70 years ago. Here they came to life, in a dingy Berlin suburb stretched along a black lake.

Babelsberg needed no introduction in those days. It glittered as bright as any place on earth. But then darkness fell, and its denizens boarded the boat heading for a village named Hollywood. Fast forward seven

decades, tactfully skipping the artistic output of the Nazis and the Communists, as well as the post-unity chaos and decrepitude. In 1992, a French utilities company bought the run-down studios from the the biggest movie-making my life to being a manager." seems assured the says, sipping his riesling in the says. state, promising to turn them

the adjoining buildings were gutted, filled with computercootrolled gadgets, and re- Somehow, we had oo luck." launched as the most modern production centre in Europe. Now the place is again brimming, the lights are coming on in the villas abutting that eerie lake, and the studio's cash tills are singing merrily. For the first year since the takeover, Babelsberg is breaking even.

A happy end, Hollywoodstyle. So why does that man sitting at the edge of the Prince Ironheart's stage look so for-



Volker Schlöndorff: Back to making movies

lorn? He is, after all, Mr Babelsberg otherwise known as your bead full of economics, Or he was, until about six years ago, when he agreed to become the manager of the studios. With international hits such as Swann in Love and The Tin Drum to his name, it was his over Babelsberg, and - hey presto – Europe's Tinseltown

would be reborn.. It did not happen. The movies did not come to Babelsberg and, while waiting stranded in the realm of anxiously for the miracle, Mr make-believe. A new Holly-Schlöndorff's creative juices wood it will never be, but its dried up. "I gave six years of future as a purveyor of soap

The hall where Martene Di-etrich made the Blue Angel and wide berth. "In the end, I would only content myself if we made big movies here.

A year ago, he resigned as head of the company, although he remains on the board. There is a new manager, "a young man out of business school". At least Babelsberg is no longer losing money, but nor is it making movies.

My personal regret is that it's all television and entertainment," Mr Schlöndorff said. Much of the revenue comes from German soap operas and game shows, as well as the theme park where day-trippers can meet the scary robot from Fritz Lang's Metropolis.

We are suffering from the total lack of major production in Europe," he added. Even the beefed-up Babelsberg studios cannot compete with Hollywood, which accounts for 80 per cent of the German market. Artistically, too, Mr Schlöu-

dorff's tenure did not bring universal success. The one big movie he directed here, The Ogre, failed to impress the critics. Now he is struggling to put his managerial career behind him, but reinventing himself as film director is proving difficult. "Once you've had Volker Schlöndorff, Germany's it's hard to get it out," he greatest living film director, said. "It's somewhat paralysing." He is writing a script - "a small east-west German story" - which he will shoot in the spring.

There may yet be a happy ending. Mr Schlondorff will job to sprinkle some pixie dust make his film; and perhaps it will be one that people want to watch. German films are beginning to win international acclaim again. But Babelsberg - like its restaurant - is

IMRE KARACS



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Oftel in

move to

force BT

to open

By PETER THAL LARSEN

OFTEL, the telecoms watchdog.

yesterday launched a consul

tabon which could force British

Telecom to open up its local

telephone network to rival

until the end of March, is de-

signed to make sure that resi-

dential and small business

telecoms users do not miss

out on the benefits of the rapid

technological advances in the

industry.

The inquiry, which will last

operators for the first time.

lines

Business & City Editor, Jeremy Warner News desk: 0171-293 2636 Fax: 0171-293 2098 E-mail: IndyBusiness@Independent.co.uk

BUSINESS

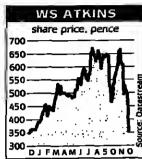
BRIEFING

\$85bn cost of euro preparation

\$85bn (£51bn) on preparations for European Monetary Union, according to a survey carried out by KPMG, the consultants. KPMG, which estimates the average cost per company of transition to the euro at \$51m, says most European firms now have an EMU strategy in place. However, four in 10 of companies surveyed have yet to

to adapt at differing paces, and this could potentially cause

WS Atkins calls off Bovis talks



engineer, called off talks with P&O over the acquisition of Bovis, the transport group's construction arm. The annonucement triggered a 17 per cent rise in Atkins's share price to 532.5p as the

Bay - BHP Petroleum, Lasmo and Monument Oil and Gas in return for renegobating existing gas supply contracts to Connah's Quay power station in Wales. PowerGen said modifications to the contracts, signed in 1991 when gas prices were higher, will cut yearly operating costs by £60m.

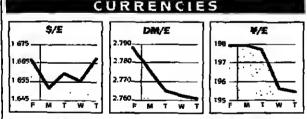
"aggravate its financial isolation" if it went ahead with plans to restructure its frozen rouble debt against the wishes of its creditors. The Russian government, which sparked turmoil in the financial markets in August when it effectively defaulted on \$14bn of debt, said it had agreed terms with foreign creditors and would next week start swapping frozen debt for new roubledenominated bonds. But foreign creditors denied any agreement had been reached.

STO	OCK MARK	ETS
FTSE 100	DOW JONES	NIKKE
5680	9100	5100
5640	9000	0000
5600	B900	14700
5560	8800 :	24500
FMTWT	FMTWT	FMTWT

		INC	DICES "	A Sound Chief	es and Erabet	at aben
ludex	Close	Change	Change [74]	52 wk high	52 mk low 17	(보)
FTSE 100	5660,30	-8.80	0 -0,16	€183.70	4599.20	3.32
FTSE 250	4780.00	2.10	0.04	5970.90	4247.60	4.83
FTSE 350	2677.40	3.30	0 -0.12	2969.10	2210,40	3,55
FTSE All Share	2583,58	2.84	4 -0.11	2887.00	2144.00	3.60
FTSE SmallCap	2020.70	3,20	0.16	2794.00	1834,00	4.16
FTSE Fledgling	1126,00	0.20	0 002	1517.00	1046,00	0.00
FTSE AIM	801.90	-0,40	-0.05	1146.90	761.30	0.00
FTSE EBLOC 100	931.25	·5.0E	-0.54			.441
Dow Jones	8908.01	-104.27	7 -1 16	9380.00	7400.00	1.68

INT	EREST RA	TES
5HORT STERLING 6.95 6.50 6.45	UK 10 YEAR GILT	US LONG BOND 5 05 5.00

MC	ET RA	BOND YIELDS						
bedox	3 посреда	Yr chg	1 Year	Yr chg	10 year	Yr chg	Long bond	Yr ckg
UK	6.50	-1.25	5.94	-1 <i>8</i> 8	4.46	-1.93	4.36	-1.96
US	5.24	-0.70	5.00	-1.09	4.51		4.94	
Japan	0.48	-0.27	0.54	-0.18	1.32	-0.63	2 07	-0.49
Germany	3.39	-0.37	3.24	-0.85	3.79	-1.60	4.62	-1.33



	PO	JND		DOLLAR				
	at Spin	Change	Yr Ago		at 5pm	Change	Yr Ago	
Dollar	1.6676	+0.930	1.6451	Sterling	0.5996	-0.34p	0.6078	
D-Mark	2.7602	-0.84pf	2 9743	D-Mank	1.6553	-1.3 6 pf	1.7987	
Yen	195.47	- 40.41	215.94	Yen	117.09	-¥-0_97	130.58	
£ Index	99.60	+0.00	103.90	5 Index	105.00	-0.40	108.20	

	<u>~ '</u>		7 114	υ.	CAL	<u>Ur</u>	(3	
	Close	Cleg	Yr Ago		Lection	Chg	Yr ngo	Hest Ago
Brent Oll (S)	9.19	-0.15	16.88	GOP	115,40	3.00	112.04	Dec
Gold (S)								

www.bloomberg.com/uk

TC	URIS	T RATES	
Australia (S)	2.5864	Mexican (nuevo peso)	15.1
Austria (schillings)	18.82	Netherlands (guilders)	3.017
Belgium (francs)	55.34	New Zealand (\$)	3.046
Canada (\$)	2.4852	Norway (krone)	12.2
Cyprus (pounds)	0.7919	Portugal (escudos)	272.4
Denmark (krone)	10.25	Saudi Arabia (rials)	6.048
Finland (markka)	8.1568	Singapore (\$)	2.607
France (francs)	8.9916	Spain (pesetas)	227.7
Germany (marks)	2.6906	South Africa (rands)	9.532
Greece (drachma)	450,68	Sweden (krone)	13.0
Hong Kong (\$)	12,46	Switzerland (francs)	2.189

1.0773

63.50

6.4223

2666

190,77

6.0445

Ireland (punts)

Indian (rupees)

israel (shekels)

Malaysia (ringgits

Italy (lira)

Japan (yen)

Pates for indication purposes only

54.34

487581

Thailand (bahts)

Turkey (lirasi)

EUROPE'S LARGEST companies could spend as much as estimate the costs of changing over to the euro.

Companies in different countries and sectors are likely severe short-term disruptions, KPMG warns.



the prospect of the next fall in borrowing costs. While the MPC's move was greeted with relief by industry, both unions and employers' organisations said further cuts would be needed. Many City analysts have pencilled in the next worried that Atkins would move for February, and the dilute its strong earnings market expects rates to fall to as little as 5 per cent late in 1999.

THERE WAS a muted reaction

in the financial markets - but

a welcome from business and

Equities were little changed immediately following the an-

loans

tumbles

MORTGAGE LENDERS raced to

distribute the proceeds of the

Bank of England's rate cut yes-

terday, promising to slash re-

payments for the average

With most lenders, the av-

erage borrower with a £60,000

repayment mortgage will now

pay £49.17 a month less than

when rates peaked in June. In

annual terms, the saving will be

and Yorkshire Bank all cut

their variable interest rates by

half a point and promised to

charge borrowers 7.7 per cent

from 1 January. Rates at Abbey

National dropped from 8.1 to 7.6

Staying ahead of the con-

verted former building soci-

Halifax, Woolwich, NatWest

more than £220.

per cent.

rate mortgage.

borrower by £18 a month.

By Andrew Verity

growth by overpaying for Bovis. P&O was believed to bave requested £350m and a 10 to 15 per cent stake in Atkins to sell Bovis, which last year had a turnover of £1.8bn.

Cost of PowerGen £534m contract cost POWERGEN WILL pay £534m to the owners of Liverpool home

Western banks warn Russia

LEADING WESTERN banks warned Russia that it would

FTSE 100	DOW JONES	NIKKE
5680	9100	15100
5640	9000	4900
5600	8900	14700
5560	8800	z-500

		INDI				
ludex	Close	Change C	inge[%]	52 wk Mgh 5	2 wik low Y	SH(X)
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FTSE EBLOC 100	931.25	-5.08	-0.54			
Dow Jones	8908.01	-104.27	-1 16	9380.00	7400.00	1.68

SHORT STER	LING	UK 10 YE	AR GII	T US	LONG BO	WD	cent. But fixed-rate deals st
	INTE	RES	TR	ATES			ing Society for more than fiv years will pay just 6.95 pe
Dax	4642.69	-20.99	-0.45	6218.00	3834.00	1.91	held loans with Coventry Build
Hang Seng	10315.44	-45.85	-0.44	11926.16		3.02	years. Borrowers who have
Nikkei	14807.80	-124.10	-0.83	17352.00	12787.00	0.99	cent for the first time in tw
Dow Jones	8908.01	-104.27	-1 16	9380.00	7400.00	1.68	market are now below 7 pe
FTSE EBLOC 100	931.25	-5.08	-0.54		- 19	.444	The cheapest rates on th
FTSE AIM	801,90	-0.40	-0.05	1146.90	761.30	0.00	cent.
FTSE Fledgling	1126.00	0.20	0.02	1517.00	1046.00	0.00	rate by half a point to just 7.2 pe
FTSE SmallCap	2020.70	3.20	0.16	2794.00	1834,00	4,16	eties, Nationwide also cut i

	4.60
F M T W T	440 F M T W T 490 F M T W T
	at Spm

tedex .	3 History	Yr chg	1 Year	Yr chg	10 year	Yr chg	Long bond	Yr chg
UK	6.50	-1.25	5.94	-1 <i>8</i> 8	4.46	-1.93	4.36	-1.96
US	5.24	-0.70	5.00	-1.09	4.51		4.94	
Japan	0.48	-0.27	0.54	-0.18	1.32	-0.63	2 07	-0.49
Germany	3.39	-0.37	3.24	-0.85	3.79	-1.60	4.62	-1.33

	at Spen	Change	Yr Ago		at 5pm	Change	Yr Ago		
Dollar	1.6676	+0.930	1.6451	Sterling	0.5996	-0.34p	0.6078		
D-Mark	2.7602	-0.84pf	2 9743	D-Mank	1.6553	-1.36pf	1.7987		
Yen	195.47	- ¥0.41	215.94	Yen	117.09	-¥-0_97	130.58		
E Index	99.60	+0.00	103.90	5 index	105.00	-0.40	108.20		

OTHER INDICATORS									
	Close	Cleg	Yr Ago		Lendon	Chg	Yr ngo	Hest figs	
Brent Oll (5) 9.19	-0.15	16.88	GOP	115,40	3.00	112.04	Dec	
Sold (S)	294.45	0.90	287.00	RPI	164.50	3.10	159.55	Dec	
iilver (\$1	4.84	0.01	5.84	Base	Rates	6.25	7.25		

SOURCE: BLOOMBERG

FOOTSIE ended lower as a weak point UK rate cut and takeover speculation dried up. In busy trading, with turnover topping 1 points off at 5,660.3. Supporting indices recorded modest progress.

Zeneca, after the Astra merger

Derek Pain, page 23

unions - for the half-point innouncement, but they slipped terest-rate cut to 6.25 per cent later amid growing concern over the outlook for the econoannounced by the Monetary my and earnings. A weak open-ing on Wall Street did little to Policy Committee yesterday. The focus moved immediately on to the outlook for the econhelp sentiment in London, and the FTSE 100 finished the day omy in the next few months and down 8.8 points at 5,660.3. Ken Wattret at Paribas said:

AND DIANE COYLE

"The cut is a double-edged sword for equities. It's positive for growth, but it is also official confirmation that the economy is in trouble." In the bond markets, gilts

benefited from safe-haven flows and yields on benchmark 10year gilts fell by 4 basis points to a record low of 4.45 per cent. Sterling opened weaker has some way to go, but it is on

pfennig after the announcement. The pound finished the day at DM2.762, marginally

Industry hails cut, but

wants more next year

down on Wednesday's close. Neil Parker at Royal Bank of Scotland said: "Sterling's reaction suggests that people were building in more than a 50 hasis point cut. " Nick Stamenkovic at Bank

Austria Creditanstalt Futures said: "You can't rule out a rate cut in January, particularly if Christmas sales are weak. But if there is no move in January, February seems inevitable."

Unions, too, were looking to the Bank's next move. Ken Jackson, general secretary of the AEEU, said: "The MPC

jumped by more than half a blown recession." But John Edmonds of the GMB union described yesterday's half-point move as a "pathetic" response.

Alan Armitage, chief economist at the Engineering Employers' Federation, said UK rates had to fall further, pointing out that they remain more than twice as high as in the rest of Europe.

The Bank's statement cited weaker prospects for global activity and falling commodity prices as the reasons for the half-point cut, as well as the need to keep inflation on track for its 2.5 per cent target.

The British Retail Consorburn said news of lower mortgage payments could belp kick-start Christmas shopping.

against the German mark but the right track to avoid full- The BRC published figures showing that prices on the high street fell last month to a level almost 1 per cent down on the same time a year ago. Kevin Gardiner, an economist at Morgan Stanley, said: "Last week's European rate cuts underlined the risk of global deflation."

Analysts said this third cut in three months could not do much to boost the economy in the first half of next year, but would help further ahead. "We are going to see very weak growth over the next couple of quarters," said Richard Iley at ABN Amro.

Kate Barker, chief economist at the Confederation of British Industry, said: "It took a long time for industry to lose export orders and it will take a long time to get them back."

Oftel is concerned that BT's local network - known as the local loop - is not sufficiently hitech to give users access to new services, such as high-speed in ternet and video on demand. The watchdog is proposing that BT be forced to open up its

network to rivals, who would be allowed to start offering unique services over the telecoms giant's lines.

Oftel is consulting on five opbons, which range from forcing BT to sell its lines to rivals to requiring the company to make a high-speed service available to others. David Edmonds, Oftel di-

rector-general, said the watchdog was open minded about the likely best options. It also wants to make sure that any measures it adopts do not dis courage BT from investing in its network in future. Industry experts said there

was likely to be plenty of interest in the move. "Anything consumers buy now, such as video and audio, could be delivered down a pipe if the capacity was there," said Roger Runswick, a director of Schema, the telecoms consultancy.

At the moment BT's network is only capable of delivering voice calls. But new digital technologies, such as the new digital technology ADS would allow operators to deliver high-speed data over exist-

The move is a recognition that BT's rivals have failed to mount a credible challenge to the power of the former monopoly telephone company. "BT is likely to maintain its dominance in the local access area." said Mr Edmonds

The paper also pre-errits possible European Comrassion directives designed to force former telephone monopolies around the continent

An early Christmas present: 'We are pleased to see the benefits of lower rates feeding through to homeowners

sooner rather than later,' said the Council of Mortgage Lenders

The Council of Mortgage e by half a point to just 72 per the latest cuts, describing them as a welcome early Christmas present for the bousing market. "We are pleased to see the benefits of lower rates feeding through to homeowners sooner rather than later" said a spokeswoman

However, some lenders, including Midland Bank, decided borrowers can pay as little as lower their rates. Portman 5 per cent for a five-year fixed Building Society said it would duction as we are concerned

SAVINGS FROM LOWER RATES

Monthly payments oo a £60,000 repaymeol mortgage

Lander	This month	Next month	Saving
Halifax	£455.92	£437.19	£18.73
Abbey National	£452.03	£433.37	218.66
Nationwide	£438.13	£419.79	£18.34

to delay making a decision to bow much. "We are delaying savers," said a Portman our decision on the level of recut its rates, did not specify by about the expectations of our

Lenders said they expected further rate cuts next year,

gage experts are even warning that some borrowers may fail to benefit from future rate cuts because of built-in interestrate "minimums". Nick Deutsch, managing di-

bringing rates to their lowest

rector of the specialist lender First Mortgage, said: "Borrowers should check whether they have a minimum interest rate built into their contract. It may have seemed so remote when they took out the loan that it may not have been discussed." I to yield to competition.

Barclays

from 10th

Shell adopts tougher | Mobile battle claims management style

THE STRUGGLE to sharpen By ROGER TRAPP the image of the Anglo-Dutch oil group Royal Dutch/Shell continued yesterday with the announcement that it is to be run by a series of chief executives

and executive committees. Mark Moody Stuart, chairman of the company's committee of managing directors, told the group's global leadership conference in London that the changes were a response to the need to make decisions rapidly and to have clear accountability. "We will still have discussions, but we will make business decisions rapidly," be said.

In an effort to maintain the delicate balance of power be-

tween the British and Dutch arms, Shell bas long been known for its consensual approach to decision-making. This is felt to have served it well, but investors and analysts bave grown concerned that it is too bureaucratic and cumbersome for the current business outlook.

Already the subject of criticism for its poor financial performance compared with Exxon and BP, Shell feels the pressure of those companies' planned mergers with Mobil and Amoco respectively and the sharp fall in oil prices. The changes - whereby

by a small team of senior executives - atem from an overbaul of the organisational structure put in place by Mr Moody Stuart's predecessor, Cor Herkstroter. A spur to the shake-up came from two events in 1995 - the furore over the planned sinking of the Brent Spar oil platform and

each division will be controlled

Nigeria. These events were seen as demonstrating bow far removed the management had become from the real world and bow difficult it found responding to crises.

buman rights activists' criti-

cism of the company's role in

Ontlook, page 19

30,000 Ericsson jobs THE INTENSE price war raging By PETER THAL LARSEN

in the mobile phone market yesterday claimed a major casualty, with 30,000 jobs expected to be axed, as Ericsson, the Swedish equipment maker, is-

sued a profit warning Sven-Christer Nilsson, Ericsson chief executive, said the shift towards cheap mobile phones sold as part of pay-asyou-go packages had hit the company's margins. "In spite of a strong increase in volumes we have not been able to compeosate for this development in our operating income," be said. He added that the Asian crisis had hit demand for Ericsson's public telecom network equipment. Ericsson said it would re-

spond to the pressures with "substantial reductions" in its employee base. The group is now expected to cut a further 10,000 jobs, on top of existing plans to reduce its 100,000strong workforce by 20,000.

Ericsson would not comment on where the job cuts were likely to fall. The company employs 3,500 in its UK operations, which include a mobile phone factory in Carlton, near Worksop. The warning, which wiped 20

per cent off Ericsson's market value, sent sbock waves through the rest of the mobile phone industry, bitting shares

of rivals such as Nokia and Philips. But industry analysts said the problems were more likely to be particular to Ericsson. Nokia, its Finnish rival, recently overtook Motorola as the world's largest manufacturer of mobile phone handsets.

Roughly one in three mobile phones sold in Europe is of the pre-paid variety, which dispense with contracts and monthly bills. Although demand has been

booming, price competition has been intense. In the UK, both Vodafone and Celinet are selling packages, including a phone and calls worth £20, for as little as £69.99 in the run-up to

AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

LONDON

New York overshadowed the halfbillion shares, the index ended 8.8

excitement, fell 121p to 2,590p. Railtrack suffered from regulatory strictures, reversing 40p to 1,417p. Colt Telecom surged 53p to a 925p peak following a presentation at a City telecoms conference.

NEW YORK

YESTERDAY'S slide in US shares was led by consumer goods makers as investors fear that a slump in the world economy will eat into corporate earnings.

Coca-Cola, which relies on foreign markets for 70 per cent of turnover, fell more than 2 per cent on fears that growth will be hurt by currency volatility and weak overseas demand. Merck dropped 3 per cent after saying profits would be less than expected.

In early afternoon trading the Dow Jones index was at 8,920, a 1 per cent fall on the day.

TOKYO

A SELL-OFF in futures contracts ahead of settlement pulled the Nikkei 225 down nearly 1 per cent to 14,807. "Trading is always volatile before settlement as investors seek to maximise gains and minimise losses," an analyst said.

Electronics stocks rose after New York's tech-laden Nasdaq index posted further gains overnight. Toshiba, the leading maker of notebook computers, added 2 per cent on bopes that strong PC sales in the US will boost hardware makers. Rohm, the chip maker, gained more than 1 per cent.

HONG KONG

SHARES were treading water again yesterday, with trading winding down before Christmas. Bemoaning the lack of direction, a broker said: "Investors will chase the market npwards if they see other buyers coming in. If they don't, they tend to sit on their hands and wait."

Wednesday's 2 per cent gain as profit-takers sold after hitting the key HK\$200 resistance level. At close the Hang Seng had lost 0.4 per cent to 10,315, with HSBC

accounting for most of the fall.

HSBC Holdings lost nearly all

STOCKHOLM

SWEDISH STOCKS posted their biggest losses since early October with the OMX index shedding 5.8 per cent to finish at 586. Ericsson, the third-largest

mobile phone maker in the world, recorded its biggest-ever one-day loss - 28 per cent - as it said profits would undershoot and margins would fall as demand shifts to cheaper models. Astra dipped 6 per cent, paring the 13 per cent surge on Wednesday, on fears that its merger with Zeneca may not deliver a profits boost as soon as anticipated.

حكذا من الاحل

Britain's uncompetitive interest rates

MEMBERS OF the Monetary Policy Committee must have appreciated by now that nobody is ever going to thank them for what they do. They have responded rapidly to the global slowdown by cutting rates 1.25 points in three months - a distance that took a year to cover on the way up. And the reaction? A grudging welcome at best. Half a point is better than nothing, but UK rates remain more than twice as high as those of our European partners.

The gap is a yawning one. Another 3.5 percentage points off mortgage rates would put nearly £150 a mooth back into the bank balance of the typical UK home-buyer. Not all of this can be considered the price Britain pays for staying outside the first wave of the single currency.

In part is also reflects the fact that the UK economy is at a much later stage of its business cycle. There is a less dramatic differential - "just" 1.5 points - between US and UK rates. If growth recovers as expected in Euroland, interest rates there will eventually rise, and this might well be at a time when British loan costs are still falling.

All the same, for the time being the UK faces a big penalty for its combination of poor inflation record



OUTLOOK

and decision to stay out of monetary union. The gap between mainland and British long-term government bond yields is about 70 basis points, reflecting the combination of higher expected UK inflation in future and the risk that the country will never get round to joining the euro. German bond yields have fallen almost as much as UK yields during the past year, despite the cyclical

So husiness leaders were right to complain yesterday that they still have to pay far more than their rivals on the Continent to borrow money. Despite this, the Bank cannot realistically opt to match the European Central Bank's interest

rate. As things stand, all it can seo this scale. Is this an industry-wide work of building strong inflationbusting credentials. Interest rates will only come into line with Europe when Britain joins the rest of Europe in the single currency a decision that lies in the hands of the Bank's political task-masters.

Royal Doulton

BRITAIN'S TEXTILE industry has already all but gone down the Swannee due a combination of the strong pound, cheap imports and the well publicised problems of Marks & Spencer. Now our fine china industry has developed some yawning fault lines too.

As corporate announcements go, sterday's from Royal Doulton was as bleak as they come. Some 1,200 jobs are to go, including 1,000 in the UK. Moreover, half of them before Christmas (nice touch, that). All this has resulted in £45m of exceptional charges - and, ob yes, there was another profits warning. It won't be a

happy Yuletide in the Potteries. We have seen cuts elsewhere in this troubled industry, most notably from Churchill China, but nothing on

sibly do is continue the painstaking problem, or bas Royal Doultoo cracked its own teapot, so to speak?

As is often the case, the truth lies somewhere in between. The strong pound has destroyed exports and cheapened imports, although to be fair, Royal Doultoo wasn't blaming the pound yesterday. This is more a tale of a rather old-fashioned company in an old-fashiooed industry being too slow to change than any. thing else.

Used to producing good quality products that sold themselves, Royal Doulton has been caught out by more modern, design-conscious operators like Villeroy & Boch of Germany. Royal Doulton soldiered on with its production-driven ethos. It over-produced, over-stocked and ing and retail positioning.

These days, people just don't seem to want the same crockery set as their mum. Belatedly, Royal Doulton is now trying to catch up. It has cut 320 lines to 120. And more atteotioo is being paid to design and

According to the British Ceramics Confederation, the number of ductioo in north Staffordshire is now around 20,000, a figure only marginally lower than 10 years ago. Further cuts now seem certain. Does Britain still have a place in pottery production or, like textiles, will much of it move offshore? Grim though this latest news has been, there are cer-

tain unique selling points. The "Hand Crafted in England" stamp is a key part of top brands: cheap labour competitors cannot replicate that. There are also some parts of the production process where the British have skills that are not often matched elsewhere hand-painting for example. It is not all gloom and doom, but the industry does need to start living in the real world.

under invested in marketing, brand- Royal Dutch/Shell

WONDERFUL THING, consensus management. Everyone agrees, so everyone's happy. Better still, claim exponents, it makes executives less worried about doing "the wrong thing", so far from leading to corpomarketing. But it will be a long haul. rate paralysis, it ought to generate quite adventurous and decisive executive action. Unfortunately it also workers involved in pottery pro-makes it hard to the point of impossibility to bold any one accountable,

since all decisions carry collective responsibility. Furthermore, the easiest consensus to reach is always the passive one - to do nothing.

At Royal Dutch/Shell, it has been the disadvantages of consensus management, rather than its claimed advantages, that have been more in evidence in recent years. No one was ever fired at Shell over the Brent Spar fiasco. Come to think of it, few people are ever fired at all at

For many years this was seen as a sign of good and inspired management. Not for Shell the gogetting, hire and fire mentality of the modern corporation. Shell seemed to be able to maintain its position as one of the world's most successful and admired companies without resorting to such methods. This perception may always have owed more to the sbeer size and power of the company than the underlying

It has taken the investment community a while to recognise it, but in recent years Shell has slipped seriously behind its peers in terms of return oo capital, the most obvious benchmark of management's ability to generate sbarebolder value. Belatedly, and spurred on by

the ever falling oil price, Shell is beginning to act.

Out go the business committees and national fiefdoms and in comes executive-led decisioo making across product groups. It is not yet certain whether this management shake-up also includes making Mark Moody Stuart, the present chairman, into an American style, all-powerful chief executive. He's always been against such an approach in the past, but this stance too may have been more the product of entrenched culture and consensus thinking than anything else. Presumably we'll know more on Monday, when Mr Moody Stuart meets increasingly disgruntled City analysts and investors.

Certainly they are demanding a good deal more than the somewhat half-hearted management restructuring announced yesterday. They'll want to see a concrete plan for bringing Shell up to industry standards in terms of return on assets. To match Exxon Mobil, this for Shell means doubling up on its present performance, which in turn requires taking a great deal more out of costs than the already draconian cuts announced a couple of mooths back. Has Shell got the stomach for it?

Has Zeneca chosen wisely?

By Francesco Guerrera FOR ASTRA and Zeneca, yes-

terday was the start of the rest

Europe and the US.

be bot favourite.

ACCOUNT TITLE

of their lives, After a frantic day in the cut-throat pharmaceutof analysts' meetings and press ical market? briefings, the Swedish and UK The answer lies in Astra and

pharmaceutical groups began the long, hard slog to get their on merger approved by the competition authorities in If everything goes to plan, the combined group will make its debut on the London, New York and the Stockholm stock Swedish capitalism,

exchanges next year, as the world's third-largest drugmaker in the meantime, the two companies will start to integrate the two businesses while keeping an eye out for any hostile bid which might spoil the of the world's best-selling drug party - Roche, the Swiss group. and one of the country's coror ut as the lights go down on now account for around 15 per the glitzy presentations, and the doites about a perfect fit" between the companies and its sales make up some 20 fade away, key questions reper cent of the country's current account balance.

main. Is this a good deal for Zeoeca? Has the UK group, which professed the merits of independence for so long, found the right partner to get ahead past points to a more growth as the company

News Analysis: The merger with Astra is a perfect fit, the companies say. But critics of the deal still see the Swedish group as a one-drug wonder

1982 - Strikes deal with the

1988 - Lauriches Losec, an

anti-ulcer treatment which is to

American giant Merck to co-operate

1985 - Lists on the London Stock

become the world's biggest-selling

1996 - Lists on the New York Stock

1996 - Sexual harassment scanda

involving its US subsidiary

its controversial chief executive, Hakan Mogren, Despite its high profile in Sweden, Astra is little known outside pharmaceutical circles in the UK. Founded in 1913 by a group of scientists, the company's development has mirrored the expansion of

From near bankruptcy at the end of the World War I, Astra, backed by the Wallenbergs, Sweden's most powerful corporate dynasty, has grown steadily to become the maker porate powerhouses. Its shares cent of the Stockholm stock ex-

But although the numbers a local anaesthetic. The drugs' speak of steady, solid growth, a burgeoning sales triggered the closer look at Astra's recent first giant leap in Astra's

A CHEQUERED PAST

1913 - Astra founded 1928 - Posts a loss for the last time

1943 — Opens its central laboratory in Sodertalge, near Stockholm. To this day the town remains Astra's main research and development hub 1948 - Launches the anaesthetic Xylocaine, its first star product 1955 - Lists on the Stockholm Stock

1969 - Reaches out-of-court settlement in a high-profile case over

chequered history, marred by a number of setbacks. From a pharmaceutical standpoint, by the label of "one-drug wooder". Its first blockbuster came in 1948 in the form of Xylocaine,

NET

June 1998 - End of Merck agreemen cember 1998 – Agrees £48bn merger with Zeneca of the UK

branched out in the rest of

Europe, Australia and Latin America. was repeated oo a bigger scale almost 30 years later in 1988, when the company launched Losec, its anti-ulcer drug. The medicine, widely considered to be the best treatment for gastric acid, had a tremendous sucress, becoming the world's best selling prescription drug with-

But Losec's triumpb was to prove Astra's biggest headache. The company was unable to discover "mediumsales" drugs which could support and balance out Losec's dominance. As a result, it found itself hostage to the success of its anti-ulcer drug, which oow accounts for almost half of its annual turnover of SKr44.9bo (£3.4bn) (see table). With Losec

starting to lose patent protec-

tioo in 2001, Astra was in-

creasingly seeo by analysts as

a lame duck in desperate oeed

in six years, with yearly sales

"Their drug pipeline is weak. There is a handful of products in there but nothing will ever come near Losec. Astra's prospects before the merger looked very very poor," one industry expert said.

Astra's other weak point, according to industry insiders, is in drug development. The company has suffered a series of setbacks in bringing its products to the market in the recent past. The biggest scare of all came in the early 1980s, when Astra was forced to balt preclinical studies of its blockbuster-to-be Losec because of fears that it might cause cancer. In the event, the company proved that tumours in some of the development of the drug.

More recently, Astra has had to wait longer than expected for the US approval of its asthma drug Pulmicourt, because, as one insider put it "it had not anticipated the American authorities' questions".

Outside the pharmaceutical world, Astra has been linked to a sexual harassment scandal in the US, which saw the departure of one of its top executives, although the company has always rebutted all the allegations.

Throughout this mixed history, the company's fate bas been inextricably linked to the Wallenbergs, whose empire spans most of Sweden's blue- character with the gentlemanly chips, including ABB, Saab, Electrolux and Ericsson. Investor, the Wallenbergs' investment vehicle, is Astra's largest shareholder - a position which it will retain in Astra-Zeneca. The merger will do

bttle to dilute the Wallenbergs' grip on the company, with Percy Barnevik, the respected bead of Investor set to become chairman of the new group.

But it is Hakan Mogren, the executive deputy chairman of AstraZeneca, who is the key link between the family and Astra, Dr Mogren, a former top manager at Maribou, Scandiosvia's leading chocolate maker, has been at Astra's belm for almost 10 years and was one of the architects of the Zeneca deal.

Despite being widely credited as the man who turned Losec into a best-seller, Dr Mogren has few friends among the analysts and press, who accuse of him of being aloof and uncommunicative, and bemoan what they see as his lavish lifestyle. Few industry insiders the rats in the trials were not forgive Dr Mogren, a biocaused by Losec, but the whole chemist by training, for his which they regard as inadequate preparation to run a

drug company. A recent survey of Swedish analysts found that 88 per cent believed that Astra's share price would rise if Dr Mogren left. His supporters counter that the opera-loving chief executive with a passion for food and wine is simply too colourful for the stuffy Swedish corporate world. They claim that London, Astra-Zeneca's new base, will be a perfect stage for his flamboyant talents and believe that the UK financial community will see a mellower Dr Mogren.

However, some observers contrast Dr Mogren's abrasive and suave manners of Sir David Barnes, the Zeneca chief executive who will be the merged company's co-deputy chairman, and wonder whether their relationship will survive the harsh test of a merger.



previously manager at a chocolate maker

Barclays Bank PLC.

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£25,000 - £99,999	3.125	2.500
£2,000 · £24,999	2.625	2.100
£100 · £1,999	2.250	1.800
HIGH INTEREST BUSINESS ACCOUNT - 14 days' notice.		
£250,000 +	4.875	3.900
£100,000 - £249,999	4.750	3.800
£25,000 - £99,999	4.500	3.600
£10,000 - £24,999	4.000	3.200
£2,000 - £9,999	3.250	2.600
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∫1 million +	4.250	3,400
£250,000 - £999,999	4.125	3.300
£100,000 - £249,999	4.000	3.200
£25,000 - £99,999	3.625	2.900
£10,000 - £24,999	3.375	2.700
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£10,000 • £34,999	1.625	1.300
£5,000 - £9,999	1.125	0.900
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·	0.500	0,400
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Eastern to unveil Spanish power and gas alliance

EASTERN GROUP, the regional electricity supplier, is today expected to reveal a strategic alliance with Hidroelectrica del Cantabrico, Spain's fourthlargest utility company.

The deal, which will enable Eastern to distribute both electricity and gas throughout Spain, is expected to be announced at lunchtime today.

Ramon Almendros, a spokesman for Hidroelectrica del Cantabrico, said the alliance was expected to be confirmed after a meeting of Cantabrico's board this morning. The two companies had been discussing a "collaboration agreement in electricity and gas distribution," Mr Almendros said, but be declined to reveal specific details of the

link-up. Bettridge, spokesman for Eastern, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Texas Utilities, would only confirm that Eastern had been in talks with Cantabrico. He ruled out

BY SIMON DUKE

The Spanish government will open 40 per cent of the electricity market to foreign competition early next year, and has imposed rate cuts on suppliers.

Cantabrico is the only one of Spain's big four utility companies not to have allied itself with a foreign company. In October, National Power bought 25 per cent of Fenosa, Spain's thirdlargest electricity company, cementing their previous alliance.

An analyst in Madrid said Cantabrico was a good, efficient company and an excellent "port of entry" into the Spanish market. The company, based in the North-west of Spain, would benefit from Eastern's gas and distribution expertise, be

Trading in Cantabrico shares was suspended for an hour by regulatory authorities yesterday as rumours of a linkup swept Madrid dealing rooms. Cantabrico shares a takeover or swap of assets. ended the day up 2 per cent.

This advertisement is issued in compliance with the requirements of the London Stock Exchange Limited (the "London Stock Exchange"). It does not constitute an offer or form part of any offer or invitation to any person to subscribe for or purchase any securities in Close Brothers Development VCT PLC (the Company).

Application has been made to the London Stock Exchange for the Shares, issued and to be issued pursuant to the Offers, to be admitted to the Official List. It is expected that such admission will become effective and that dealings will commence by not later than 27 January 1999 in respect of applications for the 1998/1999 tax year received by 25 January 1999, by not later than 1 April 1999 in respect of applications for the 1998/1999 tax year received by 31 March 1999 and by not later than 9 April 1999 in respect of applications for the 1999/2000 tax

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of 50 pence each at 100 pence per Share in respect of the 1998/1999 tax year

of up to 5,000,000 Shares of 50 pence each at 100 pence per Share in respect of the 1999/2000 tax year payable in full on application

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The subscription list for the Shares, all of which are being offered to the public under the Offers, will open at 10.00 am on 11 December 1998 and may be closed at any time thereafter but in any event not later than 10.00 am on 31 March 1999 unless extended prior to that date.

A Prospectus (including an Application Form) in relation to the Company has been published and copies will be available for collection during normal business hours for a period of two business days from the date hereof from the Company Announcements Office, The London Stock Exchange, The London Stock Exchange Tower, Old Broad Street, London EC2N 1HP and on any weekday (Saturdays excepted) from the date hereof up to and including 31 March 1999 from:

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1) December 1998

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The Trade Secretary is set to reveal his 'manifesto' as Harvard professor tells ministers to close productivity gap



Mandelson backs hi-tech revolution

PETER MANDELSON. Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, will next week unveil a major overhaul of his department's £1bn-a-year budget designed to focus more resources on innovation and knowledgebased industries.

The DTI also intends to launch 10 new industry forums to encourage best practice and co-operation between manufacturers and suppliers in sectors regarded as key to Britain's economic growth. The proposals will be contained in a White Paper on competitiveness, to be published next Wednesday and billed as Mr Mandelson's "manifesto for industry".

Another initiative in the white paper will he to give ministers responsibility for fostering "clusters" of high-techBY MICHAEL HARRISON

planning restrictions on the development of such clusters in certain parts of the country when it is deemed to be in the national interest. There will also be a series of programmes designed to encourage greater commercial exploitation of technological know-how.

The initiatives are likely to see the redirection of a large part of the DTI's budget away from areas such as regional selective assistance and towards the promotion of entrepreneurship and enterprise. At the heart of Mr Mandelson's approach is a belief that Britain's future lies in becoming a knowledge-based economy, promoting sectors such as electronic commerce and biotechnology. The white paper will also be

back from the Chancellor, Gordon Brown. who has taken the lead in the Government's drive to raise levels of productivity across the economy.

Speaking yesterday, Mr Mandelson said the White Paper would spell out how New Labour intended to help markets work more efficiently and more openly. He said his approach was based around the "three Cs" greater capability in skills, more competition among companies and increased collaboration in

key industries. Mr Mandelson will also publish a consultation paper in the New Year exploring the idea of removing political involvement in merger decisions. The idea has the backing of the Prime Minister and would mean

seen as an attempt by Mr Man- merger policy heing deterdelson to wrest the initiative mined independently, as monetary policy now is.

Mr Mandelson said: "My first instinct is that we should go in this direction." But he accepted that there could be instances where the public interest justified the involvement of politicians.

Meanwhile, it has emerged that last week's agreement giving the Post Office more commercial freedom and reducing its cash payments to the Government only came after Downing Street intervened and instructed the Treasury to back off. The Chancellor had wanted to maintain much stricter control over the organisation and keep dividend payments from it around current levels of £320m a year but was overruled by the Prime Minister.

Guru warns UK is trailing in innovation

ONE OF THE world's leading BY DIANE COYLE husiness gurus warned yesterday that the UK needs a huge transfusion of funds into higher education and research and development, far tougher competition rules and a hig reduction tax if it is to have any hope of sing its competitiveness gap

with other countries. Michael Porter, a Harvard Business School professor, met Peter Mandelson, Trade and Industry Secretary, yesterday, and will meet Gordon Brown, Chancellor of the Exchequer next week. His warnings came ahead of the Competitiveness White Paper, due next Wednesday.

Professor Porter, author of the 1990 best-seller The Competitive Advantage of Nations, aid it had come as a shock to a in his latest research to find that the UK had fallen so far behind in its capacity to innovate In a "national innovation index" based on factors such as spending on research and development, spending on higher education and the protection of intellectual property, the UK languished eighth out of nine leading industrial nations. Only Italy trails further behind.

the UK used to be among ajor innovating nations in the 1970s, but it has now declined." he said. "Per capita income stinks, productivity is

Economics Editor

low and the national capacity to innovate is shrinking."

He said the Conservative economic reforms during the 1980s, which were at one time thought to have generated a British productivity "miracle", had belped by attracting inward investment. But the economy now stood at a decisive point - particularly as his research showed that for all countries it was getting harder and harder over time to innovate.

Professor Porter said next week's White Paper, of which he had been given a preview, shared much of his diagnosis of the problem.

Top of the list of his forthright advice for British ministers is the need to invest far more in university education and human resources generally. "It's gou to take a lot of money pouring in. There has been massive under-investment for a decade."

He also urged a reform of competition policy. "Merger approval and the regulatory process is overly politicised. Too many competition-destroying mergers are occurring."

He advocated a halving of capital gains tax in order to boost investment and a broad tax credit for research and de-

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Blue chips unmoved by base rate cut

ENTHUSIASM evaporated as the stock market decided it was better to travel than arrive. A base rate cut of half a percentage point, which met most expectations, was quickly absorbed and with questions being asked about the merits of the £48bn Zeneca/Astra merger, Footsie ended with an 8.8-point fall to

But the rumour mill remained active, still grinding out stories that Siebe will encounter a challenge to its bid to take over struggling BTR. and that ScottishPower's US ambitions could run into opposition.

Siebe is said to he in the sights of an overseas predator, and there are even suggestions that its affair with BTR has a distinct defensive element. Some would no doubt welcome an interventionist strike, as the terms of the engineering merger have not won unanimous support. The fund manager Phillips & Drew, with 10.8 per cent of BTR.

is known to be unhappy with them. BTR shares were little changed at 124.5p although trading was brisk; Siebe, also in active trading, shaded to 224p

ScottishPower dulled 2p to 827p.

MARKET REPORT



DEREK PAIN

Its shares have felt the weight of the market's displeasure over its merger with PacifiCorp, the US utility. They have perked up on talk that the proposed deal will be hlown out hy a rival offer for PacifiCorp.

Zeneca closed 121p down at 2,590p, just 70p above the price ruling ahead of the merger announcement

Although lacking the excitement evident earlier this week, the market nevertheless had a busy session with share turnover topping 1 billion. Bed and hreakfast deals, often between related funds and aimed at

Footsie swung between a 43.6 gain and a 54.5 fall. A weak New York helped to restrain blue chips. Supporting shares ended moder-

predictable impact on housebuilders and retailers. For example Barratt Developments rose 10.5p to 232.5 and Marks & Spencer 12.5p

But Harvey Nichols slipped 1.5p to a 116.5p low following disappointing trading comments.

Colt Telecom was again the best performing Footsie constituent, hitting another peak with a 53p gain to 926p. It was one of the companies taking part in a telecom conference hosted by Lehman Brothers. TeleWest Communications was

another telecom share to move ahead, ringing a 6.5p gain to 151.5p after an investment presentation.

Orange managed to firm 8p to 616p despite bearish comments from HSBC, which increased its loss estimates from £86m to £186m and from hreak-even to a £123m deficit.

Energis jumped 60p to 1,292.5p on locking in profits, helped to balloon a mixture of takeover rumours and support from Morgan Stanley, which upgraded its target price to 1,600p. The investment house also lifted its National Grid target from 540p to

The interest rate cut had the LONG STANDING shell candidate Dalkeith may have found the deal it has been seeking. The shares jumped 9p to 39.5p, a high, after it became known the former puhs company was in talks with an IT training husiness. Any deal is likely to include a cash raising exercise. Dalkeith, a plantation group before it moved into puhs, has lived recently off its cash hoard,

> 620p; the shares rose 14.5p to 505.5p. EMI was in a spin, off 6p to 368p. after ABN Amro suggested a 30 per cent dividend cut, and cautious comments from Credit Lyonnais left the mortgage bank Alliance & Leicester 13p off at 8839p. Northern Rock

making profits of £397,000 in its

last year.

SHARE SPOTLIGHT share price, pence 260 -200 BARRATT

slipped 10p to 550p as BT Alex. Brown trimmed its profit hopes. The Shell oil giant dipped 7.25p to 354.75p following management changes. It meets analysts on Monday. Lehman remains cautious "until we see the adoption of real-

DIFMAMIJASOND

performing assets". P&O, the shipping group, slipped 15p to 697p after its pro-

istic targets and action on under-

posed Bovis sale to WS Atkins was mained firm, up a further 6.5p to called off, Atkins rose 77.5p to 253.5p. It is though to be eyeing 532.5p. Railtrack continued to suffer from Wednesday's regulatory strictures, falling 40p to 1,417p. BICC, the cable and construction

MERRYDOWN, the cider and soft drink group, edged ahead 1p to 28.5p after Nigel Popham at stockbroker Teather & Greenwood suggested the slimmed down operation was

back in the black. He suggested profits of £1m this year, £1.8m next and then

Last year the little group. born out of the hobby developed in a wartime prison camp by two former prisoners of war, suffered an £8.3m loss.

group, firmed to 62p as aggressive Wassall lifted its stake to 9.1 per cent. The packaging group Norcor added 1p to 50p after its rival Linpac again increased its shareholding; it now has 21.84 per cent.

deal, lost a further 25p to 247.5p.

parts of GRE, the Guardian Royal Exchange insurance group, which has indicated it is open to offers.

Express Dairies, 8.5p higher to 144p, was back on the takeover round, and the computer group Hion, up 5p to 56.5p, was said to be in the sights of Azian.

Arriva's failure to sell its leasing operations continued to undermine the shares, off a further 12.5p to 360p.

The lack of bid action lowered First Leisure Corporation 7p to 225.5p and Sears, the retail chain,

13.5p to 257p.

Jones & Shipman put on 5.5p to 18p following the 20p-a-share cash bid from fellow engineer Renold. Barbican Healthcare jumped 30p to 112.5p as Bupa emerged as the signalled bidder, offering 117p a share. But Chiroscience, on the growing possibility that its anaesthetic drug alliance with Zeneca will be terminated following the Astra

SEAQ VOLUME: 1 hillion SEAQ TRADES: 67,678 Independent Insurance re-

Investment: Mix of trains, planes and buses helps transport group in tough times | When Euro-talk

Stagecoach finds value in diversity

STAGECOACH demonstrated the im- By Phillip Thornton portance of diversity in the face of adversity yesterday. Its shares went into reverse despite a healthy increase in profits - at the top end if forecasts - as analysts focused on the shadow cast by the impending economic slowdown on prospects for its commuter train husiness, South West Trains (SWT).

But whereas Prism, which owns four rail franchises, saw its stock plunge 14 per cent after a slump in half-year profits, Stagecoach fell a more modest 5 per cent, by 12.75p to 240p, which analysts put down to profit taking. Prism only has trains. hut Stagecoach also has a train leasing company, a hus empire, an airport and an overseas division.

The headline figures showed ther joh losses in the City. There is Stagecoach's taxable profits rising no sign of that yet, but London emhy 36 per cent to £96.1m for the six ployment is a major factor," he said. months to 31 October (£70.5m in 1997) against a 6 per cent rise in

Transport Correspondent

A hreakdown shows that bus operations grew profit hy 11 per cent £37,4m, rail rose 121 per ceot to £17.3m. Porterbrook leasing grew 3 per cent to £62.7m, and its overseas business was up 8 per cent to £10.5m

Keith Cochrane, the finance director, conceded that if the London jobs market deteriorated significantly, commuter transport operations could suffer. His comments followed a wave of redundancies by financial institutions following mergers or cutbacks.

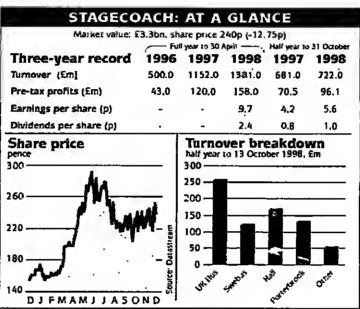
"Clearly SWT has a large commuter element in its business and it will be impacted if there are fur-

the diversity of its husinesses, saying the group was better placed to weather difficulties than some rivals. "I believe the group's strong portfolio of transport husinesses places it in a good position to manage any downturn," said Brian Souter, Stage-

Mark McVicar, transport analyst at SG Securities, said Stagecoach has managed to transform itself from a deal-driven entrepreneurial husiness into an "emergent highgrowth company". He credited Mike Kinski. Stagecoach's new chief executive, with helping to bring coherence. "This is the first set of results where there has been nothing wrong at the edges and it is more disciplined in the round," he said.

coach chairman.

Concerns over the rail husiness should be tempered both by current -it surges in times of plenty hut de- cost-cutting, he said. Passenger the cuts could be reactivated. clines markedly during recession. numbers at Virgin Rail, in which The performance of recent ac- areas of UK plc do not".



Stagecoach has a 49 per cent stake, rose 11.2 per cent: the increase for CrossCountry and West Coast Main Line was 14.3 per cent. "Double-digit growth takes some dealing with, and even 5 per cent would be quite useful." Mr McVicar said train companies had shelved cost-cutting programmes when passenger growth

quisitions may point the way ahead. Road King contributed £4.9m, "in line with expectations". Glasgow Prestwick Airport generated £1.8m. A business development team is looking at aviation acquisition opportunities, especially in the US.

Mr McVicar said Stagecoach shares were on a good rating as the Train travel is notoriously elastic growth prospects and by potential for started to lift, and if that reversed. company had strong growth momentum at a time "when large



Compass serves up 16% profit surge

COMPASS, the contract catering BY NIGEL COPE group, continued its impressive run Associate City Editor in full-year profits to £159m and bullish predictions that it is well placed more than 6 per cent a year. to withstand a downturn.

Reporting strong growth in likefor-like sales and margins, the com- tracting industry, of course, hut pany dismissed suggestions that Compass has proved to be one of the canteen contracts could suffer in a prolonged recession.

companies want to achieve the 10 to stalwart in just 11 years. 15 per cent cost saving that can been teens internally. Mr Mackay said that

Comments such as these have heen heard hefore from the constock market's most resilient per- network. formers in recent years. It has out-Francis Mackay, the chief exec-performed the market by over 60 per utive, said the contracting market cent in the past 12 months and expanded in economic downturns as grown from nothing to a FTSE 100

John Beaumont, analyst at Merattained by not running staff can-rill Lynch, said: "This is a solid growth company and there aren't too the previous slump of the early many of those around." Compass reach the UK's chunky 7.3 per cent.

Pre-tax (£)

reckons it can achieve underlying sales growth of around 8 per cent in the coming year, with earnings growth of 15 to 20 per cent.

The group has secured new contracts with the British Army in Germany, Microsoft in Seattle (serving 30,000 employees at 23 sites) and 175 service stores in the German railway

Compass reckons its contract relost in the past year was that for Ascot racecourse, valued at f4m. There is some scope to increase margins in

Compass was the subject of takeover rumours earlier his year, with Rentokil-Initial thought to be the most likely predator. But the price moved away from Sir Clive Thompson, and Compass yesterday said it had "received no enquiries whatsoever".

On Merrill Lynch's current-year profit forecast of £190m the shares. up 24p to 644p yesterday, trade on a tention rate is over 90 per cent and forward rating of 32. This is expenthat the only significant contract sive, but sector analyst John Beaumont says they still look a solid long-term hold. "The rating always looks full, but how many companies continental Europe and the rest of the are going to deliver 15 to 20 per cent world, though they are unlikely to earnings growth next year? That is Francis Mackay: 'Contracting why you are paying a premium."



grows during downturns'

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Rustralia 2.6908	Country		1 month	3 month		1 month	3 month	D-Mark Spot			
Rustria 19, 430 19,411 19,369 11,648 11,645 31,975 20,631 Canada 2,5664 2,5634 2,5580 1,5385 1,5379 1,5376 0,9299 Canada 2,5664 2,5634 2,5580 1,5385 1,5379 1,5376 0,9299 Canada 2,5664 2,634 2,5580 1,5385 1,5379 1,5376 0,9299 Canada 2,5664 1,6301 1,6455 1,6462 1,63021 6,2966 6,2886 3,8090 1,856 1,1875 1,1910 0,8094 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,	SUX Silverralia		2.6893	2.6849		0.5999	1.6139	0.9749			
Belgium 56,942 56,797 56,522 34,135 34,075 33,975 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 20,531 2	Austria	19.430	19,411					7.0397			
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Hong Kong 12.924 12.912 12.573 7.74/8 7.74/8 7.74/8 4.5627 0.9063 11046 1.4996 1.5019 1.5061 0.9063 11046 1.4996 1.5019 1.5061 0.9063 11049 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5016 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.		462.94		468.02	277.52	278.90	281.32	167.73			
1.1124 1.1098 1.1046 1.4996 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1.5019 1		12.924						4.6827			
Italy	Ireland	1.1124			1.4996	1.5019	1.5061	0.9063			
Malaysia 6.3306 6.4639 6.6629 3.7950 3.8780 4.0050 2.2937 Mexico 16.602 3.1034 3.0886 1.8655 1.8619 1.8565 1.1275 New Zealand 3.1997 3.1981 3.1933 0.5214 1.9187 1.9195 0.3151 Norway 12.598 12.621 12.652 7.5520 7.5720 7.6050 4.5644 Norway 12.802 282.29 280.96 169.67 169.36 168.88 102.55 Saudi Arabia 6.2622 2.7357 2.7179 1.6465 1.6413 1.6337 0.9951 South Africa 9.9551 10.0513 10.2335 5.9678 6.0303 6.1513 3.6069 South Africa 3.2430 23319 140.81 140.57 140.17 85.105		2734 <i>.</i> 2	2727.1	2714.3			1031.0	70.D3			
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Country Argentina Brazii China Czech Rep Lypt Jana Hingary India Indonesia Kuwait Nigeria	5terling 1.6682 2.0066 13.868 49.703 5.6947 3699.3 362.71 70.968 12461.1 0.5042 141.79	Dollar 1.0000 1.2029 8.2773 29.795 3.4138 2337.5 217.43 42.555 7470.0 0.3023 85.000	Country Oman Pakistan Pakistan Phillipines Poland Qatar Russia South Korea Taiwan Thailand Turkey UAE	5terling 0.6422 83.324 64.858 5.7977 6.0716 34647.5 2013.5 53.873 59.636 508385 6.1271	0.3850 49.950 38.880 3.4755 3.6398 20770.0 1207.00 32.295 35.750 304760 3.6730

	IN	TERE	ST RATE:	5		
uk	Germany		us		Japan	
	Discount	2.50%	Prime	7.75%	Discount	0.509
France	Lombard	4.50%	Discount	4.50%	Belgium	
Intervention 3.009	Canada		Fed Funds	4.81%	Oiscount	2.759
Italy	Prime	6.75%	Spain		Centra!	3.00%
	Discount	5.25%	10-d Repo	3.00%	Switzerlan	d
Netherlands	Denmark		Sweden		Discount	1.009
SpAdvance 3.009		3.50%	Repo(Ave)	3.60%	Lombard	2.889
		BOND	YIELDS			
Country 3 mth d	g 1 yr	chg 2	yr chg	Syr	chg 10 y	chg
Australia 4,43 -0.	02 4.45 -0	0.01 4	.45 -0.03	4.49 -0	.07 4.76	-0.07
Belgium 3,25 O.		0.01 3	.17 -0.01	3,44 0	.00 4.01	-0.01

BOND YIELDS									
Country	3 mth	chg	1 yr	chg	2 yr chg	Syr chg	10 yr chg		
Australia	4,43	-0.02	4.45	-0.01	4.45 -0.03	4.49 -0.07	4.76 -0.07		
Belgium	3.25	0.00	3.17	0.01	3.17 -0.01	3,44 0.00	4.01 -0.01		
Canada	4.68	0.00	4.78	-0.01	4.67 -0.04	4.69 -0.03	4.84 -0.02		
ECU	3,43	-0.02	3.25	-0.02	3.25 -0.02	3.46 -0.02	3.90 -002		
гапсе	0.00	0.00	3.07	0.00	3.14 -0.02	3.37 -0.03	3.89 -0.03		
Sermany	3.38	-0.02	3.24	-0.01	3.17 -0.02	3.35-0.02	3.79 -0.03		
taly		-0.05	3.20	-0.05	3.31 0.00	3.38 -0.05	3.92 -0.05		
арал	0.22	0.02	0.33	0.00	0.50 0.01	0.85 0.03	1,32 0.07		
V'lands	3.32	-0.01	3.25	0 00	3.23 -0.03	3.43-0.02	3.89 -0.02		
ioain	2.98	-0.01	3.00	-0.02	3.16 -0.01	3.39 -0.06	4.01 -0.03		
weden	3.63	0.02	3.47	-0.05	3.51 -0.06	3.72 -0.04	4,19 -0.06		
land	1.44	-0.06	1.51	-0.05	1.41 -0.05	1.79 -0.02	2.19 -002		
JK	5.90	-0.11	5.94	0.00	5.01 -0.05	4.57 -0.03	4.46 -0.03		
J5	4.34		4.24		4.38	4.32	4.52		
			MOI	VEY N	ARKET R	ATES			

			MO	NEY M.						
			night Offer	I week Bid Offer	1 mont		Offer			1 year
Treasury LIBOR	Bills				6.1760	7 6.00	5.90			
	c Depos	6.13	6.25	6.19 6.31		0 6.31	6.38	6.00	6.13	5 755.8
Euroste	Hing Deps	6.38	6 50	6.31 6.44						5.755.88
	Bank Bills				6.30 6.2					
Scerling	CDs				6.38 6.3				5.92	5.725 62
Eurodon	ar COs				5.44	5.13		5.00		
ECU De	posits				3.38 3.7	2 3.00	3.44	2.75	3 31	
				com/u				-		nberg

Contract		Settlemen	it High	Low	Est floor volume	Open
Long Git	Dec-98	118.56	118.71	118.21	160.00	4098.00
5 Yr Gift	Dec-98	109.61				319.00
German Bund	Mar-99	116.38		•••		0.00
Italian Bond	Mar-99	114.21	114.34	113.93	9487 00	41605.00
Japan Gove Bd	Mar-99	135.06	135.10	134.92	1414.00	0.00
3 Mith Sterling	Dec-98	93.58	93.61		69144.00	177049.00
2 WATER STEERING	Jun-99	94.62	94.65		30503.00	155026.00
3 Mrtt Euromark	Jan-99	96.79	96.79	96.78	3250.00	16522.00
3 WILL ERICHMEN	Feb-99	96.83	96.83	96.83	200.00	500811.00
5 18ah C						
3 With Eurolliz	Mar-99	96.88	96.89	96.87	3898.00	249694.00
	Jun-99	95.57	96.99	96.95	1039.00	73398.00
3 Mth Euroyen	Mar-99	99.43				0.00
3 Meh Euroswiss	Mar-99	98.64	98.68		10067.00	59620.00
	Apr-99	98.57	98.60	98.55	3497.00	30469.00
3 Mth Euro	Jan-99	96.79				5987.00
	Feb-99	96.83		-	-	2241.00
FTSE 100	Dec-98	5662 00	5730.00	5558 00	34697.00	119706 00
Series Call to 5500 169 3 5650 134 2 5700 105 2 5750 77 2	9 70 9 92	33 30 30 29	Call Put 290 156 260 177 231 198 202 220	402 372	Put Ca 240 46 260 43 280 46	52 312 31 330
			GY AT 5:30		300 31	
Brent Crude(\$/6					el) Products	
PE Last Chg	ACT TAE	Cose Chg V	MYM I	ast Org	Spot CI-	NW Eur
Feb 10.20-0.0714		95,00-1.0015		0.90 -0.24		
War 10.44 0.02 1				1.33 -0.27		114.50
pr 10.80 0.02 1	191 Mar I	00.50-1 00		169 -017		92.50
			Apr 1	2.15 -007	Fuel Oil 13	525[53.00
GOLDM	AN SAG	CHS COM	MODITY	INDIC	ES AT 5	:30PM
BASE	DATE	LAST	ÇHG	%CHG	31 DEC	*CHGYTD
	0=100	130.63	-0.70	-0.53	215.26	-39.32
	D=100	185 85	0.12	0.07	231.23	-19.63
	3=100	42.13	-0.46	-1.08	85.86	-50.93
	7=100	131.75	0.00	0.00	168.79	-21.94
	D= 100	137.11	-0.20	-0.15	191.03	-28.23
		386.88	0.20	0.17	463.54	-16.54
THE PERIOD 191	3=100	300.00	U0/	U. I /	403.34	-10.34

means everyone misses the point

GIAMPERIO GRANDI, the debonair head of International Personal Financial Services at American Express, exuded Latin charm yesterday when he unveiled a bold new initiative. The card giant is launching a pan-European investment fund, sold by Europeans, to Europeans, in euros.

Unfortunately be fell prey to the jinx afflicting pan-European telephone conferences this week - yesterday we reported the technical "f***king shambles" of the Astra-Zeneca teleconference. As the conference began, Mr Grandi stated in stilted English his conviction that the euro would lead directly to harmony in Europe - of taxes, that is,

Linguistic harmony might take a bit longer. Mr Grandi was immediately forced to apologise to gentlemen from the Frankfurt press who had no means of translating his English by a journalist from Milan, tech and life sciences stocks. Mr Grandi begged to be permitted to reply in Italian.

Never mind, As Oskar La-

mote itself as a clean bank with clean practices and a clean image. But executives, desperate to tighten internal controls, appear to have failed in one key respect – vermin.

This is not, of course, to compare derivatives traders with those ancient foes of mankind, mice. But several furry friends have been sneaking in to the London Wall offices and scurry freely around the trading room floor.

After some investigation, bosses discovered the cause: a restaurant around the corner known as the Imari had shut down without cleaning up properly, and the mice were having a feast. The problem, I am assured, is being dealt with.

they are trying to lure the mice back. Junior traders have been spotted drawing small black arches on the wainscot, hoping Minnie and Micky will mistake them for a home.

PEOPLE AND BUSINESS

BY ANDREW VERITY

> But no reappearances as yet. Perhaps a lump of Cheddar would do the trick?

NIGEL LITTLE, the head of equity sales at WestLB Panmure, is finally parting ways with the Germanowned broker to join a Japanese rival. Mr Little, 44 has decided that after

20 years at Panmure, Morgan Stanley and Capel, covering every sector and country in Europe, that it's time to specialise. Now on gardening leave, he will pitch up as head of sales statement. And asked a question in and trading at Nomura, covering hi-

GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT at International Financing Review, the fontaine might say, it's good to tax. trade publication famous for its an-Readers who know of any further nual awards jamboree, where the teleconference cock-ups, please let likes of Merrill Lynch rub shoulders us know via the e-mail address with rivals and celebrate cutting the higgest deals. The IFR had wanted a glamorous star such as Jeremy ING BARINGS has made great efforts Paxman as master of ceremonies. since the Nick Leeson affair to pro- Apparently, they are disappointed to have to hook Joanna Lumley instead. No accounting for taste, then.

> CONTINUAL restructuring at Guardian Royal Exchange - not to mention bids - has begun to have consequences at the top. GRE bought PPP earlier this year for £560m and is now husy integrating its own healthcare services under the PPP banner. GRE has announced 300 joh losses.

Now it's 301. Peter Gatenby, director of PPP lifetime care, leaves at Christmas. He has already begun to negotiate further long-term contracts - hut won't say with whom.

The departure of Mr Gatenby a guru on long-term care, will be seen But I hear that some staff were as a blow. "It ended up that I wantso thrilled by the rodent antics that ed something more than they were able to offer me," he says.

> People & Business welcomes any contributions. Please send e-mails to indybiz@independent.co.uk.

	IND	USTR	AL M	ETALS		-	
LME (\$/tonne)	Cash	Chg	3 m	onth	Chg	LMEstodes	Chg
	1256.5 1257.5		1267	1268	2	585700	372
Alumaium Alloy	1055 1060		1085	1090	5	92880	8
		-0.50	1513	15:4	-5	541925	205
Lead		-11.50	490	491	-5	108400	-17
Nickel	3790 3800		3860	3870	25	63612	-4
Tan	5320 5330		5305	5310	.0	7215	. 7
Zinc	992.5 993.5	14.50	1008.5	1009	14	327950	-42
_	PR	ECIOL	IS ME	TALS			
pm flx/\$ per g	z pn	fix/E p	er oz	- 1	Coins (5]	
_	ay's Year's che che Year	ar's	Day's	cha			Year
Wards or BES 00			chg			d- 200 **	
	2.00-22.75 Pta						18.9
	14.00 92.25 Pal					73.71	
	0.01 -1 00 Sih	er	2.91 0.00				
Gold 293.95	-0.25 7.65				Maple L	Bal 300.05	1.6
	AGR	CULT	JRAL #	T 5:30PA	i		
Cocoa	Coffee	Barley	,	Potato	25	Soya B	eans'
JFFE E/tonne	LIFFE S/tonne		£/tonne	HEFE C	roome.	CBOT 9	
Dec\$8 911.00	Jan991880.00			-			
Mar99 940.00							
	Mar991740.00		80.75	Apr99			
May99 961.00	May991702.00			May99			
Vol: 0	Vol: 0		0	Vol:	0	Voi:	
White Sugar"	Freight	Wheat		Com*		Lge Pot	atoe
LIFFE S/tome	UFFES10/taker	UFFE	5/torne	CBOT Co	nts/bsh	I ATA S	25k kg
Mar99 245.90	Dec98 840.00	Jan99	78.75	Dec98 2	113.75		89.0i
May 99 246.50	Jan 99 830.00			Mar99 2			
Aug99 245.70	Feb99 850.00		82.00	May99 2			
Vol: 0	Vol; 0	Vol:	0	Vol:	0	Vol:	- 0
	ОТН	ER SP	OTS A	E:30PM			
a libra Carala	(CME) 5/40h lb	60.02	Dec W	hite Maize	ISAF	S/100 mt	628.0
Feb Live Cattle			D				
Feb Pork Belles	(CME) S/40k lb		May Ro			Y/ 5k kg	83.2
eb Pork Belles	(CME) 5/40k lb	44,00		ober	(TCM)	Y/ 5k kg	83.2
eb Pork Belles	(CME) 5/40k lb	44,00	May Ro Mar Co	ober	(TCM)	V/ 5k kg 5/50k lb	



Manchester United striker Andy Cole is surrounded by Bayern Munich defenders, but still manages to fire off a shot during Wednesday night's Champions' League match at Old Trafford, which ended 1-1

English clubs still playing catch-up

Alex Ferguson must think about buying if Manchester United

vested more than £10m in Christian

Karembeu of France and the Brazil-

ian, Savio. Though Savio suffered in-

goals in the quarter and semi-finals

31 January and only players who

have not participated in any of the

three European competitions this

The deadline for new signings is

was even more influential as they in- to choose from yet failed to defeat

jury Karembeu scored important and that would appear to be the area

to invest in.

are to make their presence felt in Europe. By Glenn Moore

THE FATUOUS suggestion that the Premiership is "the best league in the world" took its annual dent this week. December is culling season in European football's club competitions and, once again, when the quarter-finalists were counted it did not take long to add up the English con-

As usual Manchester United will be joined, when the competitions resume in the spring, by the Pre miership's European Cup-Winners' Cup entrant. This is one competition English clubs have got to grips with, achieving six-quarter-finalists - and two wins - in the seven seasons since the Premiership began. Not a bad record, hut it is no coincidence that it is the weakest of the competitions. This year's last eight includes, for example, such internationally renowned clubs as Valerenga Varteks Varazdin, Panionios, Maccabi Haifa and Real Mallorca.

In the two other competitions England have managed six quarterfinalists between them. This compares to 15 French qualifiers, 13 Spanish, 19 German and a stagger ing 24 from Italy. Indeed, during this period the Italians have had at least one quarter-finalist in every competition, every year, winning a third of the trophies.

Thus Internazionale and Juventus will be high among the teams Manchester United wish to avoid in the quarter-final draw though not half as much as Chelsea will be eager to avoid Lazio in the Cup-Winners' Cup. Should these teams stay apart they seem certain to meet in

the Villa Park final come May.

United have a more daunting task ahead. An optimist will note that they were unbeaten in four meetings with Bayern Munich and Barcelona a pessimist will point out they also failed to beat either side. Similarly they qualified by the back door hut were the highest goalscorers and one of only two unbeaten teams (the other are Juventus).

Now usere is a full during manager Alex Ferguson will consider whether he needs to strengthen the squad. "Why do you always ask that?" was his response when his intentions were enquired of on Wednesday night. The reason is

BAYERN MUNICH

Best performance: Winners 1974, 1975, 1976

Qualified: German runners-up Formidable pedigree and one of only three teams (along with Ajax and Juventus) to win all three European competitions. The key influence is coach Ottmar Hitzfeld, a 1997 winner with Borussia Dortmund.

> DYNAMO KIEV Semi-finolists 1977, 1987

Ukrainian champions

Stylish and well-organised dark horses. Long winter break should leave them fresh for spring but may disrupt rhythm. Rich enough to hang on to to Andrei Shevchenko. Sergei Rebrov and co - if the players want to stay.

plementary players. Real's spending

that last year United were the only

quarter-finalist not to strengthen and

they went out straight away having had to field an injury-hit side against

Ferguson suggested that Juven-

pean benchmark in much the same

way domestic rivals regard United

as their guideline, had merely added

depth to their squad but they did sign

Edgar Davids as well as two sup-

INTERNAZIONALE Winners 1964, 1965

Italian runners-up Already on their second manager and yet to integrate Roberto Bag-gio, who is playing well, and Ronaldo, who is not. Abundance of talent, possibly too much. Poor domestic start means they are likely to concentrate on Europe.

JUVENTUS

Winners 1985, 1996 Italian champions

Struggle to qualify matched disappointing domestic season. How much of this is due to Marcello Lippi's impending departure as coach? Alessandro Del Piero should be fit for later stages but odds against fourth successive final.

Given that United had a full squad EUROPEAN CUP QUARTER-FINALISTS

season will be eligible.

KAISERSLAUTERN German champions

Making a habit of defying pundits having been first club to secure place in last eight just months after being first newly-promoted team to win Bundesliga. Uwe Rösler, in particular, would love to be drawn

> MANCHESTER UNITED

Winners 1968 English runners-up

Probably the most attacking team in the competition but also one of the most vulnerable defensively. Will hope to avoid the injuries that have undone the last two campaigns. Much depends on Peter Schmeichel. Roy Keane and Dwight Yorke.

Bayern at home on Wednesday,

strengthening may be required. The

team do not convince defensively

found, it is no easier to buy top qual-

ity defenders or goalkeepers than it

The extra worry for Ferguson,

given the intensity of the English

game, is the problem of injured and

is to acquire forwards.

OLYMPIAKOS Greek champions Look to be the weakest quarter-

finalist but will be difficult to beat at home where they defeated Croatia Zagreb, Ajax and Porto while conceding just one goal.

REAL MADRID Winners 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1966, 1998 Holders

Patchy season which has already put new coach Gus Hiddlnk In jeopardy. His predecessor, Jupp Heynckes, was sacked for poor domestic form despite ending a 32-year wait for this trophy.

The draw is on Wednesday 16 December in Switzerland, Manchester United, who cannot be

jaded players. It is this that might force him into the market.

"They have the ability, it is a question of whether they will still be fresh come March," he mused, "While teams like Kiev are having a hreak we're battling through winter. They will go on a nice trip to the Canary Islands, while we are battering through the winter. I think we should take a leaf out of Scotland's book and

"I thought Arsenal would go through hut they suffered with injuries, that is what can happen. That is why you need a big squad.

I'll be delighted if I can pick from a COUNTRY BY COUNTRY

Total number of teams left in the

three European club competitions Italy 6 Spale 4

Atletico Madrid". Celta Vigo". Real Madrid. †Real Mallorca France 3

Bordeaux*. Olympique Lyonnais*, Marselli England

Germany 2 Bayern Munich, Kalserslauten Greece 2 Olympiakos, †Panionios Athens Croatia 1

tVarteks Varazdin †Maccabl Halfa Norway 1

Lokomotiv Mosco

Ukraine 1

full squad come March but a lot can happen before then. I would be delighted if I were in that position because it is so important to have all your players." To underline Ferguson's concern. Denis Irwin, injured against Bayern, is doubtful for 3.

morrow's trip to Tottenham. Ferguson has been linked with a fresh move for Lens midfielder Marc-Vivien Foe, who was set to seven games this month. It taxes you. his leg before the World Cup, but when pressed if he would be bringing in any new faces, Ferguson replied: "It's difficult to say but I

think our squad is not too bad." In a vindication of Uefa's expansion of the competition. United are one of three domestic runners-up to make the last eight, a three bld increase on last season. Five of the octet were among the 16 clubs selected by Media Partners in the summer to be in the putative European SuperLeague. Of the three that upset the commercial order, Kaiserslauten, Olympiakos and Dynamo Kiev, the Ukrainians look

best-placed to go all the way.

Ferguson said he wished Arsenal had gone through as they would then have suffered the same conflict of interests as United will. That Chelsea, whose squad strength is the only one to match United's, also remain involved means European competitie ... may have the same impact oo the Premiership as a handicapper at a horse track. Just as long as nobody thinks the race is a classic, compared to Serie A it is more like a sell-

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Arsenal players celebrate another goal in the 3-1 midweek win over Panathinaikos

Arsenal's next generation gun for permanent places

TONY ADAMS, who aggravated a There is good news on the horizon for the back injury in a Champions' League game last month, has had surgery and faces a long lay-off. The England international defender, curreotly resting in Florida, said in a prepared acceptance speech for a television award that the operation had already

beeo carried out. "T've had a busy week," he said. "My father's had a heart attack: I've been looking after him and my three children, plus I've had an operation on my back, which has gone very, very well." Arsenal can ill afford to lose Adams, with injuries to Emmanuel Petit, Marc Overmars

and Dennis Bergkamp. The Arsenal understudies who renewed hope for the club's future on Wednesday night with their stirring victory over Panathinaikos will step back into the shadows for a while as Arsène Wenger refocuses on defending the Premiership title. Arsenal travel to Aston Villa to

0 @ 0 0 •

Reuters face the League leaders on Sunday

English Double-winners as they go about reshaping their season. By Kieran Dalev and the manager should have coo-

firmation today that the Gunners' injury crisis is finally over - and it is time again for his senior players to deliver. Only Adams and Petit are now ruled out of the Villa match. Petit's pulled abdominal muscle

will keep him out for a further week but Stephen Hughes, the Frenchman's midfield deputy, who sustained a similar injury in the Champions' League match against Lens at Wembley, is fit again.

However, after Arsenal's young stand-ins recorded a memorable victory in Greece, Wenger will now challenge his established players to produce the kind of form that secured Arsenal's honours last season. Chelsea's win against Villa on Wednesday night pushed Arsenal

down to fifth place in the Premiership and the Gunners, who have not won in the League since the 1-0 success against Everton on 8 November, now need points before starting their

FA Cup defence in the New Year Wenger, who signed a new fourwill stick to his policy of refusing to pay exorbitant prices and wages for players. He admits he still oeeds another experienced striker, but the critics who accused him of having too little quality back-up among his reserves were silenced by the

triumph in Athens. He said: "We have shown we have young players who are better than many people thought. The oucleus of the oext geoeration is

Arsenal's youngsters will never forget their night in Europe, especially teenagers David Grondin, the French Under-18 international lefthack signed from St Etienne for £500,000 in the summer, and Paolo Vernazza, the north London-born son of an Italian father whose performance in only his third senior appearance was described by veteran Steve Bould as "tremendous".

Bould added: "He is one of the best I've seen in the youth ranks year Highhury contract this week. bere. He is quality and is going to be a great player."

The acting captain admitted to the mistake which gave Panathinaikos short-lived equality when the substitute Igor Sypniewski scored in Athens, but will continue to deputise for the recovering Adams at Villa Park with the aid of pain-killers for a badly bruised toe Arsenal have announced the their 18-year link with the Japanese electronics manufacturer JVC will e od at the completion of the season.

مكذا من الاحل



Doping experts berate lack of funding to find reliable testing method for new generation of performance-enhancers

Athletes in fear of the EPO era

BY MIKE ROWBOTTOM

A SIGNIFICANT number of élite British athletes are concerned that there is widespread use within their sport of erythropoletin, or EPO, the banned blood booster which was at the heart of the controversy which all but wrecked this year's Tour de France cycling race.
Of those track and field athletes

who took part in The Independent's drug survey, 27 per cent said they felt fellow competitors were illegally improving their endurance by tak-ing the synthetic hormone which raises the red blood-cell count and enables more oxygen to circulate around the body.

Meanwhile Dr David Cowan, one of Britain's leading doping analysts, has criticised the lack of funding towards finding a reliable test

Research in this area seems to have petered out," Dr Cowan, who beads the Drug Control Centre in. Chelsea, said. "I would like to see EPO cracked. Around \$2m (£1.2m) would probably see the problem rapidly solved. Certainly \$1m a year over the next five years would solve or \$5m over a shorter time."

Dr Cowan believes the cost would be relatively small considering the resources available to the pharmaceutical industry, the International Olympic Committee and even the world governing body for

Ancient Olympians took asses' hooves, 'ground, boiled and flavoured in rose hip petals' to stimulate performance

athletics, the International Amateur thletic Federation, which is currently offering a \$1m jackpot to any athletes remaining unbeaten in its Golden League series.

"The Sports Council has had no money for research in the last five years," Cowan said. "For the pharmaceutical industry, what we would need to crack EPO is a relatively

small amount of money.
"Athletes see the doping control programme as very uneven - they don't think we are doing enough. We just have to keep pushing on and seeing what we can do to improve

British Olympic Association and co-representative for Britain, along with Princess Anne, in the IOC, fully supports Cowan's view. "It's a relatively tiny amount of money," he said. "Research is where more

mooey should be spent now." There is no reliable or legally acceptable method yet devised to determine abuse in this area, because it is impossible to detect which n-carrying red blood cells are natural and which have been stimulated by injecting the hormone have got some main players operwhich stimulates their production.

Research in Sweden has shown that EPO can improve performance by up to 15 per cent, but it has deadly side-effects if used to excess. One European, rather than African athrider in this year'a Tour talked of how injecting the substance could



The British distance runner Jon Brown fears growing EPO use: "Two years ago it was virtually non-existent, but now main players are operating on it' Empics stop the problem."

turn blood "to jam". The practice has been linked with numerous deaths through strokes or heart ate situation." tacks among cyclists from Holland and Belgium in recent years.

The fears among athletes revealed by The Independent's survey tie in with the views expressed earlier this year by Jon Brown, Britain's leading 10,000 metres runner. Brown, who set a new British record for the event this season, reiterated his concerns about the misuse of EPO in Budapest after missing out

on a European medal by one place. "Even two years ago I would say it was virtually oon-existent in distance running, but I think now you ating on the stuff," he said. "A lot of weird stuff has gone on over the past 18 months."

Brown's suspicions rested with letes, especially those who had close ties with doctors and masseurs involved in cycling, "Once you go down that road - the same as cycling - sport is not real sport. In cycling, it is team policy and if you do not do it, you have not got a chance. I would not like to see distance running go that way. Blood

testing is a way forward hut I do oot

see that happening for another five The game of trying to gain an extra edge in competition is a timeless one. In the 3rd Century BC, ac-

cording to the writer, Galen, ancient

Olympic competitors tried to enhance their performance by taking "the rare boofs of an Abyssinian ass, ground up, hoiled in oil and flavoured with rose-hips and

In recent years, booves have been replaced by anabolic steroids and stimulants. But since Ben Johnsoo's notorious fall from hero to zero after his positive steroid test at the 1988 Olympics, the eternal chase between testers and cheaters has moved onto new ground.

INDEPENDENT'S SURVEY: USE OF EPO

Do you believe EPO is used in your sport? Percentage of respondents citing use of EPO within their sport

"What was once a game of phar- at the Commonwealth Games in macology has turned into a game of endocrinology," Dr Robert Voy.
the former chief medical officer of as we hoped they would be." Peter

the United States Olympic Com- Sonksen, the project bead and pro- arena, for Wales, at the Commonmittee, says. "Steroids and stimulants have given way as athletes bave turned towards hormonal manipulatioo as the in-vogue doping technology."

The use of buman growth bormone - HgH - is the other major area of coocern to those in charge of combating doping abuse worldwide. But for this substance - which also has potentially fatal side effects - a reliable test is clearly visible on the horizon.

A \$2m research programme, jointly funded by the IOC and the European Community, has arrived at a method of testing for abuse of HgH after collecting blood samples from more than 700 elite athletes since the start of 1995, the last of which were taken from competitors than he expects.

fessor of endocrinology at St Thomas's Hospital, said. "We will present our final research to the IOC at the end of the year, and although have things in place by the time of the 2000 Olympics."

Sonksen, who will update the IOC medical commission oo his work at their meeting in Lausanne this week, does oot foresee any serious difficulty in asking competitors to give blood samples. "I doo't see there is any major problem with implementing blood testing," he said, pointing out that a legal precedent has already been set by the blood testing undertaken at the Winter of those effects with the East German Olympics of 1994. Brown, it seems, will have one of his wishes earlier

Baulch says 400m runners use drugs

One of Britain's leading runners says cheats are ruining his sport. By Ian Pocock

JAMIE BAULCH, ooe of Britain's leading 400m runners, has accused some of the world's top competitors in his event of using illegal drugs. While oot willing to name anyone involved or talk about the specific substances being abused, the Welshman said: "It's a real shame wheo I am out there training everyday to be No 1 and you know that there is somebody in front of me and hehind me who is taking the stuff.

"You always get it. There is always going to be somebody out there who is going to do something they shouldn't hut the problem is that I can't see it ever being stopped."

Baulch's accusations come as The Independent's survey of drug use in British sport showed only three per ceot of the country's lesding men and women in athletics think their sport is clean and 64 per cent do not think current drugs regulatioos are appropriate and need to be tightened. The survey showed 27 per cent of athletes believe EPO (erythropoietin, a substance which increases the blood's oxygen-carrying capacity) is being abused, 19 per cent cited buman growth hormone as a problem and 16 per cent thought fellow athletes were using sterolds.

"It would be nice to think that this is something which could go away but the truth is that those who cheat seem to always be one step in front of the testers," Baulch said.

"It [drug taking by other athletes] really frustrates me and I am not against them [the authorities] doing blood tests to make sure it doesn't happen but I can't see that they can

Baulch's claims come at the end of a season where he battled back from a blood disorder which threatened to destroy his career. After a gruelling rehabilitation schedule. he returned to the international wealth Games in Malaysia, only just missing out on a medal.

The diminutive sprinter rose to the heights of world No 1 on the intime is short, it is our intention to door circuit last winter hut has never been tempted toward the drug culture affecting international sport. The fate of East German sportsmen and women especially has highlighted the potential future of those who have chosen that path paved with EPO, growth hormooe and steroids.

> "I have oever wanted to take drugs." Baulch said. "Despite it being illegal, you don't know what the effects are . We're seeing now some athletes and if you did take drugs, it must be of huge concern to you.

"It is not for me to make the big decisions over testing but whatever test they can do, they should." Many athletes responding to The Independent's survey called for the introduction of mandatory blood testing to be introduced-instead of urine tests, currently the most common type - but there is little hope of such measures being introduced in the near future.

Baulch's anger at the cheats stems from his fear that athletics is becoming irreversibly damaged and that the war against drugs is being lost. "It is so bad for the sport," he said. "And it is because I can't see that anything can be done, that I am



Baulch: Angry at drug takers

Racing's weighty problem fades

the jockeys who responded to The Independent's survey admitted to having used diuretics did not surprise Dr Michael Turner, the Jockey Club's chief medical advisor. Turner himself received a similar response to a survey of his own conducted four years ago, but he is quick to point out that "what you find when you follow it up is that jockeys have often tried these things at the very start of their careers, and the experience has been so horrible that by and large they haven't done it again."

Race-riding, as one 30-year-old espondent said, is "one of the very v sports undertaken whilst being constantly dehydrated and undernourished to enable us to compete." Diuretics (or "pee-pills") have long been a last resort for jockeys, on the Flat in particular, who are desperate to shed an extra pound. Fred Archer, arguably the finest rider in turf history, habitually used a patent concoction known as "Archer's mixture" to strip every possible ounce from his frame. Its prolonged use is thought to have contributed to the depression

THE FACT that 35 per cent of Jockeys who regularly take diuretics are thin on the ground today. By Greg Wood

which caused Archer to commit suicide in 1886 at just 29 years of age.

Diuretics are not currently on racing's list of banned substances, although the random samples taken from jockeys throughout the year are monitored for their presence. About 150 tests are performed each year, and on average only one proves positive for a diuretic. A similar exercise in France, by contrast, produces about 50 positive results annually and diuretics have now been added to the French list of banned substances.

"In France, diuretics are almost part of the racing culture," Turner said. "But the difference is that if you turn up in France more than a pound above your riding weight, you are not allowed to ride. In England, you can be 5lb overweight and still get the ride. French jockeys needed to have a last-minute solution. I don't believe diuretics are a major problem in Britain and if jockeys were resorting to them oo a regular basis, there is no doubt that we would pick them up."

INDEPENDENT'S SURVEY: USE OF EPO Do you believe EPO is used in your sport? Percentage of respondents citing use of EPO within their sport

There were no admissions of EPO use within any sport. There was no citing of EPO use in respondents from boxing, cricket, horse racing, rugby union, rugby league, snooker or weightdirting

Even if, as Turner anticipates, Britain follows the French lead and bans diaretics, the temptation will still be there on occasions for jockeys to pop a "pee-pill" rather than put up a pound overweight in a valuable handicap when it could be the difference between winning and losing. But Michael Caulfield, the secretary of the Jockeys' Association, said that in the last decade there has been a signifi-

cant change of attitude among riders. "The word has gone round that these things are just no good for you and they will damage your career prospects," said Caulfield. "Jockeys know that they don't work in the long term and they make you feel absolutely rotten too."

In place of the wasting drugs, there is an appreciation, particularly among the new generation of riders, of the importance of diet and regular exercise, in addition to the halfhour or so that they get on horseback each afternoon. "Senior jockeys," said Turner, "will not get to be senior jockeys unless they already have a stable arrangement

Jordanian is Games' first drugs casualty

A JORDANIAN weightlifter was seot home from the Asian Games village in Bangkok yesterday after becoming the first athlete to fail a drugs test at Asia's leading sporting event. Games officials said Ayed Jassar Khwaldeh had tested positive for the banned diuretic triamterene.

Ayed admitted using the drug to hring down his weight on a threeweek training camp. It was the first positive drug test in the four-day-old Games after more than a dozen positives at the 1994 Games in the Japanese city of Hiroshima.

reighed on the day of his 56kg division competition on Monday he was 55.8kg, while prior to the competition his weight was 60kg. It also resolved to issue a "strong

warning" to the Jordanian National Olympic Committee and subject Ayed to the sanctions outlined in the rules of the International Weightlifting Federation. Swimmer Sharron Davies said

yesterday that she hopes Olympic took drugs.

leaders will act on evidence of drug

use by former East German athletes. The International Olympic Committee opens a four-day executive board meeting in Lausanne today to consider rewriting the record books. The British Olympic Associatioo has filed a petitioo oo behalf of Davies, who won the silver medal in the 400m individual medley at the 1980 Moscow Games behind East Germany's Petra Schneider.

In addition, the US Olympic Com-The OCA said that when Ayed was mittee is seeking "appropriate medal recognition" for the American women's relay team which finished second behind an East German quartet at the 1976 Montreal Games.

Davies finished 10 seconds behind Schneider in Moscow but Schneider admitted to Davies recently that she was on drugs from the age of 14 and now suffers from beart problems and other side-effects. Davies wants the record books to show that Schneider

TOMORROW

"I always thought I needed drink or drugs to be confident to chat to people ... I tried ecstasy, speed, cocaine, most things really. Booze was the worst drug of them all. I put everyone I lived with through hell"

Footballer Shane Nicholson talks exclusively about drugs, the Marchwood Priory clinic, and his return to the game

WEDNESDAY'S LOTTERY UPDATE.

Draw date: 09/12/98. The winning numbers: 1, 7, 39, 40, 45, 49. Bonus number: 38
Total Sales: £28.513.885. Prize Fund: £12.831.248 (45% of ticket sales)

CATEGORY	NO. OF WINNERS	AMOUNT FOR EACH WINNER	TOTAL EACH TIER
Match 6 (Jackpot)	2	£2,344,445	£4,58a,a90
Match 5 plus bonus ball	6	£240,4SS	£1,442,730
Match S	360	£2,504	£901.440
Match 4	18,195	£10a	£1,983,2SS
Match 3	381,415	£10	£3.814.150
TOTALS	399,978		£12.830,465
and the first of the same and the 15 per		Breek ada (nove	s munded down to nearest £11:

Maybe, just maybe. 🐿 THE NATIONAL LOTTERY

CONTRARY TO his own expectations, Tony McCoy was yesterday able gently to extract the best out of the reluctant hurdler horse and that's to win as that's Bamapour, the Martin Pipetrained horse responsible for the champion jockey's 14-day sus-

pension for misuse of the whip. Punters, who perhaps had taken note of McCoy's opinion prior to yesterday's race at Taunton that success on Barnapour would be hindered by the more restrained whip action he must now employ, allowed the eight-year-old to start as the 10-1 outsider of the six-runner field.

However, he battled on strongly after leading three flights out to get the better of Papua by a couple of lengths, with McCoy resorting to his

stick only a handful of times. "He felt a bit sweeter and fresher today as the trainer's a superb genius," McCoy said, "but I rode him exactly the

12.10 Tom Paddington 12.45 Spendid

1.55 Brave Tornado

1.20 Freelander

By JOHN COBB

same way as I ride any other

"And if Mr Pipe keeps on improving him in this way, he'll

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Monyman (Doncaster 2.10) NB: Rockforce (Doncaster 2.45)

end up being favourite for the Champion Hurdle," be added, tongue lodged in cheek.

"I don't want to look back. As far as I'm concerned Fontwell [scene of the whipping misdemeanour] is over. I'm not going to change the way I ride as I'm out there to win but I'll have to do that within the rules.

CHELTENHAM

GOING: Good.

Left-hand, galloping course with stiff fences. Uphill run-in of 340yd.

Left-hand, galloping course with stiff fences. Uphill run-in of 340yd.

Course s tim N of fown off A435. Bus link from Cheltenham station (served by Binstol. Berningham and London, Paddington) 2m. ADMISSION: Cub & Tattersells combined £12 (jumbrs. 16-24 years, £8); Coursee Endesure £5. CAR PARK: Free.

LEADING TRAINERS: W Pipe 40 winners from 252 runners (success rate 15.3%).

D Nicholson 28-96 (14.3%), N Twitaton-Davies 21-202 (10.4%), J Gilford 16-116 (13.8%), Mars J Pitman 15-59 (21.7%), K Balley 14-76 (14.4%).

LEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 39 wins from 150 index (success rate 26%), N Williamson 33-154 (21.4%), R Dumwoody 32-151 (16.8%), J Osborne 25-120 (20.8%), M A Fitzgerald 18-145 (12.4%), A Maguire 17-132 (12.9%).

EAVOURITES: 202 wins in 501 races (40.3%).

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None.

12.10 NAAS RACES NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS C) 26,500 added 3YO 2m 1f Penalty Value £4,577

-7 declared -BETTING: 11-10 His And Run, 3-1 Tom Paddington, 8-1 New Bird, 8-1 Master Term, 10-1 Amoroso

FORM GUIDE

Hit And Rum Has won all four starts over hurdles, at Newton Abbot, Sedgefield, Chel-

Hit And Rum: Has won all four starts over hundles, at Newton Abbot, Sedgefield, Cheltenham (from unkely Doctor Goddard) and Sandown (from Navarra Samson). Tem Paddington: Second devounte, won 15-runner race at Wincenhor (2m. good to soft) in good style by 6 lengths from The Gene Gene, Very promising Alfabrid: Lightly raced and disappositing on Flat for Michael Stoute, second in two madens at around 1m4t. Was his of thed in visor. Master Tem: Winner on Flat in France, 7-1 from 4-1, 4 lengths second of 10 to Panama House at Winner on Flat in Germany, last seen when well beaten in a 1m4t listed race on heavy going in July. Could prove an interesting recriat to hunding Profilen Fairly useful first winner for Henry Caci. Second tavounts, 10/1 lengths fifth of 3 to Santas at Newcastle (2m. good to soft), prominent to 3 out Annorago: Sister to this stables teading hunder Sharpical. Fair 9f winner on Flat for Chins Thomton, sold for 16,000 guiness at the Autumn Sales.

VERDICT: New Bird and Amorphic are newcomers from ton stables and have to

VERDICT: New Bird and Amoroso are newcomers from top stables and have to be respected, but this should go to either HTT ANO RUN or Tom Paddington, Martin Pipes improving front-runner Hit And Run has the edge in expendice and can make it tell against Tom Paddington whose Flat form and impressive hunding debut mental if monthered to softer crund.

12.45 FRED AND MERCY RIMELL NOVICE CHASE (CLASS C) £10,000 added 3m 1f 110yds Penalty Value £6,710

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Spendid: Game stayer who loves the track Twice a hurdles winner here and 2-kangths too good for Moscow Express (Song Of The Sword 20-kangths further back) over course and distance last time despite an early mistake (Shore Party unseated 4th).

Derrymore Mist: Perryhouse bumper winner and twice successful at Wincardon, the istast narrowly when conceding lumps of weight to The Cockertoo and New Leaf, Lightly raced and can improve further but stiffer test today. Shore Party: Early casualty in Spendid's race here last month and a distance winner in weeker race at Bangor next time. Earlier besten 4-lengths by Song Of The Sword on this course so stiff task on form against Spendid.

Botable Baron: Has shown promise in staying races but stiff task here on first extempt since a 2nd to The Whole Hog at Fontwell in March, 1997.

VERDICT: Rain is francest on SPERDICO should be up of this internal time.

VERDICT: Rain is forecast so SPENDIO should have sufficient cut in the ground to produce his best. He's won here three times before and it's doubtful whether the likes of handcap winner Derrymore Milst or Shore Party, a casualty on his last visit here, will have the power to half his progress.

1.20 EBF IAN WILLIAMS' OWNERS 'NH' NOVICE HURDLE (OUALIFIER) (C) £6,500 2m 1f Penalty Value £4,782

(OUALIFIER) (C) £6,500 2m 1f Penalty Value £4,782

27-11 RIO'S KING (16) (D) (Gescogne Brookes Partnershol / Tuck 6 ti 10 ... R Bellany
P31-21 BEAU (10) (D) (Ms 3 Stantart N Twister-Dawes 5 ti 5 ... C Liewedlyn
342- ALL GONG (200) (A Speelman) N Henderson 4 ti 0 ... M A Fitzprend
20044 BARRIE STIR (504) (Materico Lodge) P Hobbs 8 ti 0 ... R Durnwoody
5 BLACKOND (FR) (37) (B A Kipatrick) M Pipe 4 ti 0 ... R Durnwoody
5 BLACKOND (FR) (37) (B A Kipatrick) M Pipe 4 ti 0 ... R Macraton
22527 COBLE LANE (618) (J Poyston 8 J Brewer) (Williams 8 ti 0 ... G Tomrey
00-0R DURNFORD BAY (7) (R W Gless) N Tweston-Dawes 5 ti 0 ... J Goldstole (3)
14-2 FREELANDER (25) (J P McMarus) J J O'Nell 5 ti 0 ... R McGrado
06-06 GALMAN (13) (Ms 3 k Powel) Ms 5 Bramal (n) 5 ti 0 ... R M Begure
09-06 GENERAL CLARERONN (16) (K G Mantey) D Nicholson 5 ti 0 ... A Misguler
22- GRAND GONSER (FR) (234) (Ms G Leigh) H Daly 4 ti 0 ... N Williamson
00-07 THE ISLANDER (8) (A G F Leether) G Beiding 5 ti 0 8 Featon
- 14 declared - ... 8 Featon

20-1 Allabad, Profiler 1997; Sound Appeal 11 2 A Thornton 12-1 (A Foster) 13 rai

2.30 Tamarindo (nb) 3.05 Millcroft Rivlera

3.40 TIUTCHEV (nap)

"The horse ran sweeter today but I kicked on him a fair

way out as I did at Fontwell, the only difference being he kept running for me today."

Some will argue that this success proves that McCoy can achieve results with recalcitrant horses without resorting to the full force of his armoury. But it also shows that mentally, as well as physically, Bamapour was undamaged by his exertions at Fontwell.

Another significant result at has also benefited from a Taunton was the victory of Fourth In Line, who ended a losing run for Venetia Williams. "We've had more beaten favourites than anything else since Teeton Mill won the Hennessy Gold Cup and I was getting a bit worried," Williams said.

Pipe and McCoy have been denied the opportunity to saddle the favourite for tomor- trutti and Cool Dawn, who is row's Tripleprint Gold Cup as aiming to recapture the winning Cyfor Malta has suffered a form that brought him the Gold slight setback, but the same Cup over the track last March.

horse does now have the Grand National as a possible target. The British Horseracing Board yesterday sanctioned a change in the rules that will allow sixyear-olds- as Cyfor Malta will be next April - to run in the Aintree marathon. Under the previous rules, no horse under the age of seven was permitted

Today's card at Cheltenham

to run.

FORM GUIDE

Rio's King: Beat Siren Song at Warwick and followed up against Irish Banker and Young Deverseux at Chepstow (led run-in to win by 11/4 lengths) 3 weeks letter both races at around 2m4f on soft auriteau. Capable of a good deal better yet Beaux Won at Towester in May and second in another bumper in November. 7-2, beat 1-3 shot Estate Agent comfortably by 21/4 lengths at Newton Abbot (2m11, soft) on hurding debut. Different ground conditions here, but looks very promising All Gong: Ran in four bumpers last season. 8-13 when winning 6-numer race at Falkenham by 14 lengths. Stable in form. This looks a fairly stiff task for hurding debut Barrie Sitt. No great promise over hurdes two seasons ago for John Writin Effactoid: Has Franch jumping pedigree. 8-1 from 3-1, 34 lengths fifth of 10 to stable-companion Futs Beby in bumper form on sound surface when 86-1 winner at Newton Abbot (soft). Probably beet watched Churchstentor. Fairly useful bumper form on sound surface when 86-1 winner at Newton Abbot in August and fifth of 18 at Cheltenham. Sort to do well over hurdles Coble Lame. Fair bumper from in 1996/97. Had leg problem last season and has also been hobdayed. Trainer will presumebly want a bold show in race he sponsors Dumford Bay: Showed a little ability in bumpers. Tenth of 12 at Wircamton on hurdling debut and then ran out at Sandown. Hard to fancy on that record revelander. 12-length bumper witner in March. 2 lengths second to Barton (winner 3 times since) at Wetherby (2m44, good) on both horse's hurdling debuts. Promising Galway: Something to find on the form of his four previous starts over hurdles. Showed planty of promise that day but has a lot to find with waner Riota King Grand Gousier: Second at Banger and Chepstow on soft going in the spring, beaten 27 lengths by Kedou Norantais and 2 by Polar Prospect. Sure to win races a lengths in 8-numer race at Kempton leating the firm and to find marked improvement The Islander: Outsider all starts, failing to show much in bumpers or novice hurdles.

VERDICT: Last-time-out winners RIO'S KING and Beeu set a high standard for the rest, with Rio's King preferred after his success over some very promising rivels in a hot contest at Chepstow, Freelander and Grand Gouster are the others to note.

1.55 STAKIS CASINOS HANDICAP HURDLE (Oualifier) (B) £10,000 3m 110yds Penalty Value £7,068 C4

- 11 declared -Mineruan weight; 10st, True landicap weights: Sweet Glow 9st 12th, Harbour latend 9st 11th, Ebulliand Environme der 7m.

Explaints St. Fall Strave Tornado, 4-1 Philippents, 9-2 Spenkling Yestejo, 8-1 Moorien, 12-1 Derayden, Analige, Swood Store, Ebullient Equinates, 14-1 others 1997: Gyserl TB 10 10 A P McCoy 10-3 (M Pipe) 12 ran

FORM GUIDE

ful at Newbury was first start since his Festival with from Yehnni over 3m2t. Goes off 4lb lower mark today and sure to come on for the Newbury effort

to Niger's Led at Market Rasen. Dwaydem: Three times a hundles winner here but latest two successes gained over tences. Well beaten 5th to Jet Tabs here last time and wants testish ground Brave Tornado: Loves the mud and confirmed Chepstow promise with a 4-length success from Eau de Cologne at Ascot (2m). Fine chance off the 6th higher mark especially if the promised rains arrive Berude Not To: Classy performer on his day but tailed off in a chase at Uttorster on respectance. Stayed the trip over fences and could be chucked in here with only stest the.

ish: Only wins gained four years ago and not raced since February when 3rd

at Tried in blinkers last time when 3rd-of-5 to Badge Of Feme at Worcester

r: Cracking

FORM GUIDE

change in race conditions, with several top chasers having been diverted south from tomorrow's Tommy Whittle Chase at Haydock where, bizarrely, they would have had to meet Suny Bay, Britain's top chaser at disadvantageous weights. Among those switched are Strath Royal, Senor El Be-



Cool Dawn returns to the scene of his greatest triumph at Cheltenham today

BETTING: 5-2 Rio's King, 4-1 Beeu, 5-1 Freelander, Grand Gouster, 12-1 All Gong, 14-1 Blackold, 16-1 Berrie Stir, Georgi Claremont, 20-1 others 1997: Dawn Leader 6 tt 0 C Llewellyn 11-4 (J Old) 16 ran

FORM GUIDE FORM GUIDE

Cool Dawn: Gold Cup winner here at March on good ground. Still backward when
1/4 length behind runner-up Court Melody at Ascot latest start, unable to set pace
Balmoret King: Third in the Scottish Grand National (4m11, good to firm) in April. Poor
efforts as well last term and another (backward, jumped moderately) on return
Senor El Belgutti: 15 lengths fourth in the Gold Cup. Showed some promise at Wincaston on return but heavy failer next time and showed little at Newbury on latest
Unguided Milesiler; Only two good runs last term, including handcap win on good
ground at the Festival in March. No promise on reappearance at Ayr four weeks ago
Stratti Royat: In very good form, winning Charlie Heit Chase at Wetherby by 2 lengths
from Boss Doyle and 01/4 lengths third to Suny Bay at Haydook
Call II A Day; Whitbread winner at Sandown (Im5f, soft). Made promising reappearance
but ran poonly in the Hennessy at Newbury 3 weeks later, May need further
Macgeorge: Won last three starts in 1997/98 and comtortable 5-length winner (716
higher here) in a much stronger race at Warwick (3m2t, good to firm) on return

Macgaorge: Won last three starts in 1997/88 and contratable 5-length winner (7b higher here) in a much stronger race at Warwick (3m2t, good to firm) on return Seven Towers: Good win at Ayr (3m1t, good to soft) before well-backed fevourise but running as if something amiss in the Hennessy, May need greater staming test Court Melody: Beat Call it A Day at Sandown (3m1t, good) in November, Second to impressive The Tolseach at Ascot but now 2th worse off with the third. Cool Dawn Temestindo: Won over fences in France. Successful in lest three starts over hundles last season and in British chasing dobut (by 7 lengths from Cawader); 8th higher now) on good ground here on reappearance. One for short-list despite lack of experience Verlashine Guile: Won this last year but hee shown little since and this is much tougher Plainsy Truth: Won 1997 Nethoral Hunt Chase. Well out of handicap on first run since

VERDICT: There are plenty of big names here, but with doubts about most of the field following their performances last time out. MACGEORGE has now started to fulfil his potential and is taken to dely another rise in the weights after his smooth success at Warwick. Strath Royal also entires the rectoming on turnent form, while the ex-French Syo Tamerindo has bags of potential. Cool Dewn has place prospects.

LETHEBY & CHRISTOPHER CONDITIONALS H'CAP CHASE (E) £5,000 2m 5f Pen Val £3,453

FORM GUIDE

Mouse Birth: Up in distance sher Stratford (best Heritorse), Newbury (2nd to Nearly An Eye) and Warwick (5-length 2nd to Rovester). Well handicapped but suspect at the trip Millioroft Riviera: Latest wire gened at this sort of trip (Kempton and Huntingdon) and creditable effort against the in-form Nearly An Eye at Chepstow last time. Wants fashship ground and leading chance with a tap conditional aboard. Beatton: Has won on fastish ground and a wirner over the course and distance. Has won off a higher nearly than this so has to be considered even after the lengthy layoff since the Phemoton with fire 2nd very a million over 8 years 2nd.

since the Plumpton win (for 2nd year numbing) over 8 year ago Southampton: Modest performer novedays and beaten a long way when a fortu-nous 2nd to King Of Sparta at Wincenton last week afier at Uttoreter (3m2f) in February. May need this outing and trip could prove too short VERDICT: There are form lines involving Nearly An Eye which gives Mouse Bird the beating of MILLCROFT RIVIERA. But Mouse Bird has something to prove in

the staying department whereas Millcroft Rivera is tried and test at the trip and has the highly competent Robert Widger aboard. The selection wouldn't want the ground too soft, but rearn would help Beetsen, who is handicapped to go close. 3.40 CHUBB FIRE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS C) C4 £6.500 added 2m 1f Penalty Value £4,622

= 8 declared = BETTRIG: 7-4 Tivichev, 3-1 Str Talbot, 5-7 Benetom, 7-1 Barna Boy, Aarlon, 12-1 Ob So Risky, Call Ny Goest, 14-1 Yubraise 1997: Tibetan 5 11 7 R Durwoody 9-4 jt fav (Lady Herries) 7 ran

FORM GUIDE

Berna Boy: Best when coming off a fast pace and same handlesp mark as when this to Blowing Wind in the County Hurdle, having won that race the previous season. Stiff task today even on more subsite ground after Aniters (veral held behind Kinnescash) Yubralee: Goes well fresh and won four chases during August of last year. Did title over hurdles afterwards but well handleapped being just 3th higher since the win at Aniters Oth So Riskly: has not won since the Ascot success over fences in 1996. Hard to tancy on first run for Rod Milman since leaving David Elsworth Bereations: Former Henry Cept trained and novice winner at Wincanton on second start. 6th to French Balterine at the Fastival meeting and then falled to stary 2m4f at Ascot when 4th to Just Np. Appeals as the type to go well in handleaps Sir Talbot: Game winner from subsequent big-race Sandown scorer Polar Prospect at Chapstow and then set a saffer task at Newbury, finishing an 1t-length 5th to Wethbot Sands in testing ground. Before chance in this handleap.

Anion: A faller at Exister when going smoothly but lacked the pace at Ascot afterwards when last-of-6 to Real Easter sind hore fast season and not given a hard time at Newbury on reappearance when 2nd to handleap ship Bold Gail, form of which was boosted when Polar Prospect 5 lengths back in 3rd) won a decent set all Sandown Call My Guest: Winner at Worcester and Market Rasen (by a head from George Dillinghen) this season but etilf task in this class.

Amitget: Tited in blinkers last time when 3rd-of-5 to Badge Of Fame at Worcester (2mxt) in heavy ground. Stiff task here for first test over three miles-plus Jazz Track: Modest performer on Fist and disappointing over hundles. Hard to fancy with the latest Festival 5th to French Holly flattering him Sparkfling Visionitis: Progressive mare last season with seconds to Cedougold and Hole Derring after the heavy ground win from Holdimclase at Newton Abbot. May need this race, first run since February of last year. Sweet Glow: Not the force of old and well beaten by Brave Tornado at Ascot after a lengthy layoft. 5b better off but united to increase the stand: Disappointing since a hundles debut win at Naydock. Far from discrement in the Festival race won by stablemete Unsinkable Boson on latest attempt graced in the Festival race won by stablement Unsinkable Boxer on latest attempt Ebuillent Equiname: Goes well fresh and stable in great form. Falled to fulfil early chas ing promise last term but decent hurdler on his day and has chance off a low mark VERDICT: BRAVE TORNADO has always shown his best form on soft ground so any rain will greatly increase his chance. The Ascot win showed him to be in great heart and the year-cider Pharamear may just find the titl concession to Toby Beldings charge beyond him. Marth Pipe is five handed and his most interesting contender is Harbour Island, while Ebuttlent Equiname has a record of winning when tresh.

2	.30	CF ROBERTS HANDICAP CHASE (B) £15,000 3m 1f 110yds Pen Value £10,426
	PIP-P3	COOL DAWN (20) (C) (Hor Miss D Hardred) R Alber to 12 0
	PF43-P	BELMONT KING (41) Mrs Bille Band) P Nicholis 10 11 1 M A Fitzgerald
	4P-4F0	SENOR EL BETRUTTI (14) (C) (G Nock) Mrs S Nock 9 11 1
	F41P-P	UNGRIDED MISSILE (27) (CD) (D E Harrison) N Florande 10 to 12
	1P-518	STRATH ROYAL (23) (D) (Lady Arme Bentinck) O Brennan 12 10 8
	F31-2P	CALL IT A DAY (13) (Mrs. J Lane) D Nicholson 8 100
	477-1	MACGEORGE (22) (D) (Mr & Mrs J H Watson) R Lee 8 105 N Williamson
	11/51P	SEVEN TOWERS (13) (CD) (RF) (Mrs E A Murray) Mrs M Reveloy 9 to 3
	PF0-12	COURT MELODY (20) (D) (SF) (M Coburn) P Nichole 10 10 2 J Tizzard B
0	2111-1	TAMARINDO (FR) (20) (CD) (D A Johnson) M Pice 5 to 0A P McCov
l	404-44	YORKSHIRE GALE (20) (CD) (BE Naylor) J Giflard 12 10 0

- 12 declared -Minimum weight: 10st. True handicap weights: Tamerholo Set 13b, Yorkshire Gale Sel 2b, Filmsy Truth 8st.

VEROICT: A least-see ship on other with TIUTCHEV showing at Newbury that he has carried over his amart form of last season. Benatom would have to be interesting in his first handicap and Str Tailbot can be considered the equal of Tiutchev on the form lines involving Polar Prospect. But the Nicholson runner is primed for better races than this and must be followed.

backing yesterday for the Welsh National with the sponsors, Coral, cutting him to 5-1 from 7-1, "Since we opened our book,

TAMARINDO, THE favourite for today's feature race at Cheltenham, was the subject of all the money has been for the Martin Pipe trio, which is not surprising given his record," Simon Clare, of Coral, said. WELSH NATIONAL: 4-1 Dom Samoural 5-1

Tamarindo

tumbles

Tamarindo (from 7-1), 7-1 Earth Surmit, 8-1 Eudipe, 10-1 Maggeorge, Seven Towers, 11-1 Fidding The Facts, 12-1 Ottowa. The Grey Monk, Coome Hill, 14-1 others

FIRST SHOW Cheltenham 2.30

CHLS 72 41 41 41 41 103 103 41 72 114 Seven Rowers 11-2 5-1 5-1 11-2 5-1 trath Royal 11-2 13-2 11-2 11-2 7-1 Call A Day 6-1 8-1 8-1 9-1 9-1 Cool Dans 12-1 12-1 11-1 10-1 11-1 Court Mislory 12-1 10-1 10-1 10-1 10-1 nguided Miss. 10-1 10-1 14-1 10-1 17-1 knoni King 16-1 14-1 14-1 14-1 16-1 Senor El Bet. 16-1 16-1 14-1 14-1 16-1 orieshina Galle 25-1 25-1 25-1 25-1 25-1 Bosy Truth 100-1 150-1 150-1 150-1 150-1

Eachway a quarter the odds, pleces 1, 2, 3

C Coral, H Wm Hil, L Lectrickes, S Stanley, T Total

RACING RESULTS

12.50: (2m 11 novice hurde)
1. PERFECT VENUE _M A Fitzgerald 5-2
2. Mersey Best _____ A P McCoy 8-11 fav
3. Gladieteur IV _____ B Dunwoody 10-1 Also: 15-2 Maieri (5th), 25-1 Nakhal, 40-1 isaa Marida (5th), 40-1 Smokey Pete, 66-1 Gergaash, Other Cub (4th), Rear Window, Remi Ocone, 100-1 Cloudy Bill, Eagle Canyon, 150-1 Blazing Castla

tone.

15 ran. Nk, 9, 5, 5, 2 (Winner bay gelding by Pablond out of Cliema Jet. trained by Paddy Fanell at Chard for Wyvern Racing. Tote: \$6.30; \$170, \$10.20, \$7.30, DF: \$182.90 CSF; \$200.23 NR Absolute Proof

1.50: Izm 3f movice handicap chase)
1. FOURTH IN LINE __N Williamson 11-2
2. Compaught Cracker ____ Izzard 5-1
2. Compaught Cracker ____ Izzard 15-1
Also: 5-2 lav Cadar Square, 9-2 Relikander (Sth), 15-2 Storm Forecast, 16-1 Murray's Million, 20-1 Fitzmaunce8th, 33-1 racking Prospect (4th), 33-1 Hightown Cavalier, Sk. Clarks, 40-1 Loch Na Kast.

2.30: 1, FEN TERRIER (A Dobbin) 2-5 fav., 2.30: 1, FEN TERRIER (A Dobbin) 2-5 fav., 2, Domp. The Yard 7-1: 3, Lippy Louise 3-1. 4 ran. 6, 3 /a. (F. Murtaph, Carlisle), Roter £120. DF: £2.50. CSF: £3.63. 2, Oc. 1, GELBERRY (J.F. Kavaragh) 2-1 fav., 2, Night Dance 14-1: 3. Jessica One 17-4. 5 ran. 2, 7. (E. James, Hungsridne), Toke: £2.70: £7.50. £3.30. DF: £15.60. CSF: £20.05. NR: Grate British, Shathani, 3.30: 1, LEGERNO & COMP.

55590 CSF; £7855. Tricast. £196065. NP

Also: 5-1 Brush With Time (6th), 15-2 Dark Kestral (5th), 8-1 Goldingo (4th). 8 ran. 2 shi-hd. 23, 5 11- (Winner bay gald-ing by Shantari our of Banana Peel, transed by M Pipa at Wellington for D Charlesworth) Tote: \$7.30, \$2.20, \$1.30 DF: \$1680, CSF: \$38.79.

Jackpot: £7,100.00 (part won, pool of £3,483.94 carried forward to Chelienham

CHELTENHAM 1.55: BRAVE TORNADO is a proven stayer who will be in his element if the rains arrive.

HYPERION'S

TV TIPS

He battled on gamely at Ascot last time and looks up to this test over a similarly strengthsapping three miles.

2.30: TAMARINDO made his British debut over fences only four weeks ago but did the job impressively and had previously had lots of experience in France. He can see off his elders bere, with Seven Towers posing the greatest threat.

3.05: MILLCROFT RIVIERA put up a good fight against the progressive Nearly An Eye last time. Heavy rain may dampen his chance but Mouse Bird is untried at the trip and Beatson is having his first run

3.40: TIUTCHEV can be backed with confidence after an eye-catching second to the handicap snip Bold Galt at Newbury a fortnight ago.

Going: Good to Soft 12.40: 1. DESERT POWER (D J Burchell)

11-4 fav. 2. Stretching 11-2; 3. Salthur 9-2. 18 ran. 5, 11/2. (D Burchell, Tota: £350; £170, £180, £170. OF: £2480. CSF: £1532.

1.10: 1. FENCER'S QUEST (H Olver) 20-1;

2.40: 1. NAME OF OUR FATHER (Miss P

3.10: 1. RIVER WYE (V Stattery) 15-2; 2. Winsford Hill 100-30; 3. Ferruffino 5-1.5 ran. 4-5 to Circus Star (4th), 5, 1, (G Yardley), Totac FLOSO: 5,370, E210. DF: E15-40, CSF: £2784. NR: Doverto.

3.40: 1. HAPPY HUSSAR (S Wyrne) 8-1; 2. Tilt And Turn 7-4 tay; 3. No Tale To Tell 7-2, 12 ran. 1½, 7. (H Daly,). Tota: £920; 5300, £190 £120, DF: £2230, CSF: £1920. Placegor: Fuscasia

Piacepot: £16,551.50 (part won; pool of £133,67 carned forward to Cheltenham loday). Quadpot: £377,40.
Place 8: £18,408.65. Place 5: £13,768.28.

MARKET RASEN

Going: Soft (Heavy in straight)
1.00: 1. BALMORAL PRINCESS (S Durack)
9-2: 2. Setton Blatte 4-1; 3. Western Chilef
3-1 lav. 9 ram. 15, 6. (D McCain, Chol-mondeley) Totals: 5270; 540, 5480, 5190 DF:
5770. CSF: 520.37. Treast: 55530, NR:
Daddy's Polly

1.30: 1. BLACK BULLET (T Stey) 13-2: 2. Mir Busby 11-10 fev; 3. Sumo 10-1. 8 ran. 11/4. 24 (A Streets: Ulticoster) Tota: £3.90; £1.40, £1.60, £1.30. DF: £9.20. CSF: £13.77.

2.00: 1. NOOSA SOUND IR Supple) 11-4; 2. Sillars Statker 6-1; 3. Barroncelli 2-1 fax 11 ran. 1.5 (L.Lungo, Carrutherstown), Total 2.505: 1280, £160, £101, £105.

TAUNTON Going: Good (Good to Soft in a few places)

7.10: 7. FENCER'S CUEST (H Cliver) 20-1; 2. Daystona Beach 50-1; 3. Little Serena 16-1. 12 ran. 100-30 fav Ambidextrous, ¼, 2½, ¼ Tucki, Tota: 64650; 21:30, 28:40 57; 6. F. 29:30. CSF: 25:007. Tricast: 5:3752 1.40: 1. CLOD HOPPER (R Waldey) 16-7; 2. Seubrook Lad 33-1; 3. Biotrart Outburst 40-1. 13 ran. 5-2 fav Tree Creeper. 1½, 7, (an Williams), Tota: 5:307. 5:30, 5:30, 5:50, 5:100. DF: £266.00. CSF: £373.29. Tricast: 5:1704.683. 14 rain. Ni. 8, 2 %. 16, 1/r. (Winner bay coll by Danehill out of Welsh Fantissy, trained by N Henderson at Lambourn for The Mar-narhership), Tosic Salor, 51.00, 51.20, 51.80 OF: 51.50, CSF 54.42.

2.10: 1. CASTLE OWEN (R Thornton) 12-1; 2. You're Agoodun 8-1; 3. Minnisaun 4-1 tax. 15 ran. 7. 4. (D Nicholson). Tota: \$1000; \$280, \$250, \$180. DF: \$5180. CSF; \$8629 1.20: (2m 3f 110yds selling hurdle) 1. PABLO'S JET WHILIAMS 2. Shaded _______ L Aspell 33-1 3. Don't Worry Mike ____M Griffiths 25-1 Danes 7-1; 2. Inch Emperor 7-1; 3. Deddy Danes 11-2 9 ran. 11-4 fav Too Plush (puled up) 10, 1/4. (P Bowerl) Tote: £730; £160, £270, £190. DF: £1760. CSF: £4702. Tricast: £250.08

12 ran. 5. 7. 6. 1%, 22. |Winner bay gelding by Horage out of Littoral, trained by Miss Venetia Williams at Hereford for John Nichols (Barbury) Lidi. Tote: 96.70: \$2.30. \$1.40. \$2.50 DF: \$1720. \$55: \$29.83. Tricast: \$250.81. Tote Timecta: \$238.30

ter (4th).

8 ran. 7, 12, 13, 5, 11/h. (Winner bay gelding by Artic Lord out of Callope, trained by P Hobbs at Minehead for Exe Valley Racing), Tote: £150; £110, £160, £400, 0F: C360, CSF: £534 Tricast: £59.78, NR. Ette

2.50: (3m handicap chase)
1. BOLD STATEMENT __R Johnson 13-2
2. Boro Hill ______O Burrows 14-1
3. Fools Errand ______B Clifford 25-1

Placepot: 522090, Guadpot: 52210 Place 8: 537542, Place 5: 533124

nsettled.

RUGER

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TOWNER SECOND CLASSICS OF SECOND SECO

3.30: 1. LEGEND OF LOVE (Michael Brennar) 6-1: 2. Thantis Keith 8-1; 3. Tender-Touch 4-1. 14 ran. 7-4 tay Passing Danger (6th), 6, 3/L. (B Llewellyn, Bergoed), Tota: 55-60: £2-30, £2-30, £150, DF: £1940, CSF: £5-60: Place 6: £14,63 Place 5: £1159.

*THE INDEPENDENT RACING SERVICES 0891 261 CHELTENHAM 971 981

LIVE COMMENTARIES RESULTS DONCASTER 972 LINGFIELD 973 983 ALL COURSES RESULTS <u>0891 261 970</u>

DONCASTER

12.00 Shagreen 12.30 Looks Like Trouble 1.00 River Frontier 1.35 Squandamenta 2.10 Monyman 2.45 Rockforce 3.20 Fiolino

GOING: Good (Good to Firm in places).

Left-hand, pear-shaped course with 1 mile straight.

Course is E of town off the A636. Bus link from Doncaster Central station. ADMISSION: Club \$15; Grandstand \$25; Family Texture 13 (under-18s free all enclosures). CAR PARK: Free LEADING TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveley 11-74 (149%), 0 Nicholson 9-45 (20%). T Easthefty 7-28 (25%), Mrs M Smith 7-30 (223%) If LEADING JOCKEYS: P Curberry 11-40 (275%). R Guest 8-37 (215%). P Niven 8-52 (154%). R Garritty 7-42 (167%). If FAVOURITES: 77-WTS in 271 races (36.5%). BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Peter Perfect (viscoed, 100), Scarrota (viscoed, 130). Leading Nature 135.

12.00 SAUCY KIT NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 4f

ł	1	02-40	NOSHINANNIKIN (16) (D BP) M W Easterby 4 ft 5_R Garriet
ı	2	24	BALI STRONG (31) G Hubbard 4 10 12
ł	3	23-544	RAMANIAR (151) D Complet 10 19 A C Coule (6
ŀ	4	P	COLLEGE DON (15) J Coupland 7 to 12 K Johnson
j	5	214-02	CONNEGATI BAY (20) C Mortock 5 to 12 J A McCarth
ı	0	00-0	CONSTANT HUSBAND (14) R N Sexs 5 to 12 Gary Lyon
l	7	0/05	DOUG ENG (21) M Pitman 5 to 12
ſ	8	00PO-0	GENERAL ACADEMY (10) J Curte 5 to 12 E Collegistic
l	9	0P3-6	GENERAL HAVEN (13) M Sowersby 5 to 12 A \$ Smith
ľ	10	P-	LONE STAR (900) & Sherwood 8 to 12 G Bradler
ı	11		MAZAMET (23) O O'Neil 5 to 12 V Statter
ł	12	0521-	SHAGREEN (239) J Durlop \$ 10 12
ı	3	0243/0	SHARED RISK (17) J Norton 8 10 12
Į	14	6	SUDEST (8)) Balding 4 10 12
ı	15	50/4P-	MESP (520) J O'Shea 7 to 7
ļ	16	F60-30	THE IN-LAWS (16) O Sherwood 4 10 7R Thoreton
			_ 10 declared _

= 10 doctured -BETTING: 7-4 Stragmen, 11-4 Noshinamildo, 7-2 Sudest, 7-1 Mazamet, 6-1 Ball Strong, The In-Laws, 10-1 General Mayers, Lone Star, 14-1 others

FORM VERDICT

A mised beg in an ordinary race. Noshinannikin may need things all his own way and is unified on ground this fast, and another recruit from bumpers, Shagreen, appeals more. Sight preference is for GENERAL HAVEN, who did enough to suggest he can win at this lavel here last season and shaped well on his belated reappearance.

12.30 RED RUM NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3m

FORM VERDICT

beat. He has come up against a couple of fair prospects in both his races over fences, shaping as though this step up in distance would suit against Charlie Lambert at Carliele and finding a better turn of foot than Charlies Chief at Hunting-don. There should be botter to come. Son Of Anahan has well in lands firmin more of the come. yet to tackle firmish ground, but, with rain forecast overright, is seen as the one to beet

1.00 GLASGOW PADDOCKS SELLING HUR-DLE (CLASS G) £2,000 added 2m 110yds

	u	DUNINA'S DANCER (10) Mrs A Naughton 4 ft 7 J Supple
2	2012	MARKINESS WARRIOR OR B Rethant 4 11 7 ILC C
,	0-5F02	MANUUHAS LURD (9) (BF) J Wainwright 4 ft 7 E Callanhon
ļ		PETER PERFECT (FTO) Mrs 9 Lamonson 4 rt 7 Labores V
ī	PO-	HEGGE BUCK (FID) J L Harrie 4 ft 7
,	-330223	HAJURUJ ROBEN (17) Mrs A E. Inhrenn 4 11 7 D. Labouro G
7	u	SHAPLE WEALS (17) N TIDMY 4 II 7 (When
ı	UUVPD	MAID ON THE MILL (83) M Chroman 4 to 9 W Worthhodon
ì	0	SUBSELLA DE A M MORNA 4 11 2
O		AMBREM RESIDENT (1-73) Mess S Willow 3 to 7 12 December 1
١	33U	BOLD LEGACT FISH FORD 3 10 7
2	063E	DISSIGNED AL (US) (ESF) J 5 Minoria 3 10 7 A. Petra (7)
3		DEDRU (F127) H SMOSON 3 10 7
4	P	SKY NKJUNTAIN (20) Mass L Dovis 3 to 7 S Moderate (7)
5	043	BABANINA (16) (BF) R Philips 3 10 2 L Commins (3)
•	~~	EDITORIO DISCOLO SANCIA DE LA CALCADA

SETTING: 3-1 Zeiloon, Brother Of Iris, 4-1 Sou Of Anehen, 6-1 Invest Wise lý, Looka Like Trouble, 7-1 Lord Khailos, 6-1 New Ross, 12-1 others

it race, in which BROTHER OF IRIS is the one to

2	25802F	HAPKNESS WARRIOR (8) B Rottwell 4 11 7 A S Smith
,	0-5F02	PANOORAS LORD (9) (BF) J Weinwright 4 11 7 _E Callaghan
ļ		PETER PERFECT (FIG) Mrs 9 amuman 4 rt 7 t Blance V
ī	PO-	HEGGE BUCK (FID) J. Harris 4 ft 7. Q Singer
,	33223	HAJUNU ROBIN (17) Mrs & F. Johnson & et 7 D. Laharan a
7	u	SHIPLE ICIEMAS (17) N. TICHAY A. H. 7 (186
ı	0U0-P6	MARD ON THE MILL (83) M Chepman 4 11 2 W Worthington
ì	0	SODELK (8) A H Hervey 4 11 2 P Hide
O		ANUBER REGENT 0-731 Mark S Walter 9 to 7 12 December
ī	33U	BOLD LEGACY (15) H Ford 3 to 7
2	063E	DANCING AL (15) (BF) J 5 Moore 3 to 7 A Price (7)
3		DELMO (F127) R Smoson 3 to 7 B Dove (7)
4	P	SKY MOUNTAIN (20) Miss L Davis 3 10 7
5	043	SABANINA (16) (BF) R Philos 3 102 Compiles (1)

FORM VERDICT HARIONESS WARRIOR's Sedgefield form stands up well, with third-placed Boston Man scoring in runaway style on his next outing, and he is a tentative selection.

1.35 DOORKNOCKER CONDITIONALS NOV-ICE H'CAP HURDLE (F) £2,500 2m 110yds

FORM VERDICT
n-form Nick Littmoden and the up-end-coming conditional Make le Bachelor have combined successfully with CASHAPLEN- Ty in elimits events at Uttoester (pood to sort) and Werwick soft). The anticipated rain should ensure that conditions are conductive to another bold bid from the progressive type.
10 THE THINKER HANDICAP CHAS

SPF-P3 CYBORG DE BEAUFAI (II) Mrs L Taylor 7 12 0 G Bradby 3253 GOLDEN HELLO (10) (CD) T Essistry 7 11 3 ______ L Wyser (323-5 MONYMAN (10) (D) M Hammond 8 11 1 ______ B Harding

— 10 declared —

— 10 declared —

Minamum: 10st. Tipe weights: Asis Clock Str 12tb. Cherming Girl St 9tb.

BETTING: 7-2 Golden Hello, 4-1 Monyman, 5-1 Betts Clock, 11-2 Cherming Girl, 8-1 Smolennik, 15-2 Monttock, 8-1 Non Vistage, 14-1 others

FORM VERDICT

An open race, if MONYMAN is back to the form which saw him firsh second at Anthee 13 months ago he should be hard to best off this SIb lower mark on ground that should surf him bettex. Smolensk — capable of further improvement — and

2.45 FORGIVE N'FORGET MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS D) 25,000 added 2m 110yds 4 3-646P STINGING BEE (28) W Read 7 11 7 _ . . _ _ T Read _ 4 declared = 8ETTING: 18-11 Mechafini, 5-4 Rockforce, 12-1 Amhech, 25-1 Stinging

Seamingly a match on paper, With the benefit of expenence over lences. MACHALINI dets the nod over Rockforce.

3.20 DONCASTER STANDARD OPEN NH FLAT RACE (H) £1,500 2m 110yds

MONTYS LAD A Cartol 4 TI 4 J Gut

CHARMING COTTAGE M McMilan 4 10 18 Mr R Partistal (7)
0-4 DOUBLE OR OUTS (29) Counters Goess-Sourau 5 10 13

6- MISTONE (440) Mrs \$ Larryman 5 10 13 J Maxim 3- WYNYARD DAMSEL (407) Ws M Reveloy 5 to 13 ... G Lee - 18 declared -BETTING: 5-2 Red Hot India, 3-1 Fiolino, 9-2 Spect, 5-1 The Granty, 8-1 Wynyard Cannet, 7-1 Baccurat, 6-1 Abelvino, What A Chook, 16-1 Timely Mayle, 12-1 Rothura, 18-1 others

FORM VERDICT

The ground is the worry for Red Hot Indian and as a consequence he is passed over in twour of ABALVINO. Paul Web-ber has had a couple of bumper winners already this season and also has a fine record at this track.

Taylor tries to bring calm to the storm

AFTER THE scandal and the guilt comes the coping, and Australia turned to its most By DEREK PRINGLE eminent lay therapist to try and soothe the nation's fevered hrow. Mark Taylor may have no other credentials than being captain of his country, but he cuts a mightily impressive figure. If anyone can ease the nation's time on the couch, after the revelations that Shane Warne and Mark Waugh ments from a bookmaker in Sri Lanka four years' ago, it is the man from Wagga Wagga.

Therapy, at least the type Taylor deals in, does not involve hypnosis or regression: just a simple straight-talking dividually if they had a problem country boy, be looks as honest from two inches as he didn't and the pair have our full a hundred paces, and the aren't many you can say certainly not divide the Austhat about. At a press confer- tralian cricket team. ence before the first day's play of the third Test here, Taylor's calm authority was as sensible as the previous day's revelahons had been alarming.

RIONS

When every man and his dog suddenly acts as judge, jury and executioner, things tend to get distorted. Gently but firmly, like a gun-dog's grip, Taylor reminded us of the nightmare," he said perhaps human element, and what it is to be imperfect in an increasingly accountable world.

Mark and Shane made a mistake," Taylor said. "They admitted that. As a player, I have a problem with either ne and I've enjoyed playing cricket with them. Their records show they've been great players for Australia."

Past glory was obviously a consideration for Nike, who despite the sudden burst of bad publicity, decided to continue their sponsorship of Warne. In a statement issued yesterday, the sportswear giants made it clear that although they did condone ularly the question of whether Warne's actions, they felt he . the Australian Cricket Board

But damage is not always limited to the individual involved and one of the potential side-effects of a furore like this one is that those closest to them may also be affected. Having Mark Waugh off-colour is one thing, but team-mates. were fined after accepting pay- especially those who knew nothing of the scandal until it broke, must try not to get emotionally involved. It is a difficult balancing act and one Taylor addressed immediately.

"I asked all the players inwith Mark or Shane. They 100 per cent support. This will

"I've also spent a few moments with Mark too. He's probably not in the hest state of mind at the moment, he'd be superhuman if be was."

Crises are nothing new in cricket and the Aussies, through Taylor, are aiready bouncing back. "It is a nightmare but it's not my worst casting his mind back to England 18 months ago, when his abysmal form brought him

close to quitting.
"Obviously there has been some damage to the name of Australian cricket, but we must also bring it into perspective. Two guys took a fast buck. No more. If they'd been involved in things like fixing matches, then that would be far more serious."

One of the few in the know at the time, Taylor admits that he must share some of the blame. He says he has thought about it a lot over the last three-and-a-half years, partic-

Waugh's and Warne's dealings with a bookie.

"In hindsight, yes, I think the inquiry should have been told. Had I been asked about in Lahore it would certainly have heen my worst question. I would bave answered it truthfully, but it wasn't asked."

Although never approached hy anyone offering money or favours, Taylor has however, been involved at close quarters in the subsequent investigation. Like many, he wants the guilty brought to justice, though be does not share the pessimism of those who feel that the main evidence is likely to be discredited. While I was in court in La-

hore, the most damning evi-dence came from the Pakistan players, not from Waugh," And yet despite the obvious need for a cohesive investiga-

tion into such matters, be does not feel that an international watchdog would help to clear the mess up. "It is a nice idea for the

International Cricket Committee to have total power over what is right and wrong, but I'm not sure it will work in practice. Cricket is comprised of different countries and cultures and opinions vary accordingly."

At the moment Taylor believes it will he a full-time job confronting the present, though one be feels his team can handle. Like Australia II's revolutionary keel hack in 1983, the Aussie captain has the kind of stabilising influence that many will be relying on to make good the wrongdoing of both the two players and the ACB.

As most therapists will tell you, however, little can be achieved without self-help and common sense. "I believe what the public wants most is to see good cricket and that is what we must continue to provide. had regretted his decision should bave advised the in-and Furnt from his mistakes". quiry in Pakistan about quicker than anything."



Courtney Walsh, of the West Indies, celebrates bowling Herschelle Gibbs Reuters

Symcox saves the day for South Africa

PAT SYMCOX, the oldest as well BY TONY COZIER as the most talkative, combative and underestimated of contemporary Test cricketers, once more engineered a crucial lateorder South African revival on the opening day of the second

Test here yesterday. Aged 38 and with the build, aggression and vocabulary of a professional wrestler, Symcox entered the fray 50 minutes before tea. Sent in, the top seven in the South African order had gone for 142 and the West Indies fast bowlers, restored to their traditional number of four; were enjoying themseives on a grassy pitch in cool, overcast weather.

By the time the umpires, Rudi Koertzen and David Shepherd, determined conditions were too gloomy to continue, Syrncox was still unbeaten on 30 and South Africa were in better spirits at 223 for 8.

Symcox was influential in partnerships of 35 with wicketkeeper Mark Boucher and 48

with Allan Donald, 27 at the end. Even at tea, taken at 182 for 8, the West Indies coach, Malcolm Marshall, estimated that South Africa bad been allowed 35 to 40 runs too many. One down in the series, the West Indies' batting faces testing times today against the quality of Donald and Shaun Pollock.

The West Indies' cricket has been indifferent at best and they are yet to win a match on tour. But their mood was instantly buoyed yesterday once Brian Lara correctly called the toss. By the end of the first session Courtney Walsh had removed the new in Port Elizabeth

South Africa 223 for 8 v West Indies

partner Gary Kirsten and Jacques Kallis to go past Ian Botham as the third-highest wicket-taker in Test history, at 385. Merv Dillon replaced him and soon split Daryll Cullinan's leg-stump with a yorker and South Africa were tottering at 86 for 4 at lunch.

Jonty Rhodes edged a ball from Curtly Ambrose to second Blip on resumption hut it was then that the depth of the South African batting became evident.

Pollock compiled 28 and dominated a stand of 49 with his captain, Hansie Cronje. That revival seemed to have ended when both were out within four runs of each other in mid-afternoon.

That created the kind of crisis that has repeatedly brought the best out of Symcox, With Ambrose off the field after tea with a strained groin muscle, he and Boucher checked the West Indies and, after Boucher went, be and Donald accumulated even more valuable runs.

First day. West Indies won toss SOUTH AFRICA - First Inning

Saglain's salvo puts Pakistan in control

THE OFF-SPINNER Saqlain Zimbabwe 183 v Pakistan Mushtaq took five wickets and pace bowler Wagar Younis added four as Pakistan dismissed Zimbabwe for 183 runs on the opening day of the second Test in Labore yesterday. Bad light prevented Pakistan starting their reply as play ended 16 minutes early.

Wagar took four early wickets in a burst of 25 balls to put Zimbabwe in deep trouble at 29 for 4, while Saglain achieved a

career-best 5 for 32 to wipe out the middle and tail. The leftbander Andrew Flower remained not out, adding 60. Pakistan's bid to level the se-

ries had suffered an early blow when their captain, Aamir Sohail, pulled out before the start citing a severe headache and fever, although sources later suggested he walked out following a row with selectors.

Khan replaced Sohail as captain, won the toss and sent Zimbabwe in on a grassy pitch.

Wagar struck with the first ball of his second over dismissing Gavin Rennie for three. Murray Goodwin was next to go with his score on 10, edging an outswinger from Wagar to Moin.

Zimbabwe's captain Alistair Campbell started with a bound-

The wicketkeeper Moin and was caught by Yousuf Yohanna for five.

Waqar then trapped the opener Grant Flower lbw for seven to put Zimbabwe in grave trouble at 29 for 4. He took 4 for 18 in a devastating first spell and gave Pakistan the advantage they beld at the close.

"Its a good beginning for me because we won the crucial toss and bopefully our batsmen ary hut could not keep a short- will give us a good total to pitched ball from Wagar down force the win," Moin said.

G J Rennie C ljaz b Wagar. G W Flower Ibw b Wagar... M Goodwin c Moin b Waqar
A O R Campbell c Yousal b Waqar
tA Flower not cur
N Johnson c and b Shoalb
C Wishart c Salim b Saglaln

Phillips

for next

century

BY JOHN ROBERTS

Unsettled Broadbent finds home at Halifax |Llanelli

A DAY of wheeling and dealing has left three clubs believing that they will be better for Super League

Halifax captured the biggest name by signing the Great Britain prop. Paul Broadbent. from Sheffield Eagles. Broad-His deal to join Halifax, who in the opposite direction.

RUGBY LEAGUE

BY DAVE HADFIELD

Challenge Cup."

"It's a sad loss to the club to squad last season, with Powell, cruit, Jeff Hardy, to move to Hull, signed the Wigan forward lose a player of Paul Broad- a centre, coming close to se-

specialists at centre. All three were regular mem-

Pearson will become an option at stand-off, as well as full-back, whilst Baldwin's presence in the back row of the pack

stand-off if required. "With the decision to cut

our squad to 22 players, versatility is a valuable commodity," said Kear. Pinkney, the former York

and Keighley winger or centre, had been earmarked to join Wakefield Trinity, but Halifax asked for him as part of the Broadbent deal.

Steve Holgate yesterday. The young second rower, Steve Barrow, also joined them, on a free transfer from the same club.

Holgate was prop in Wigan's starting line-up in the Challenge Cup Final in May, but their forward strength has made him available. Barrow is returning on a permanent hasis to the club with whom he spent Meanwhile, another of the a brief period on loan last sea-

Quinnell RUGBY UNION

without

must play the face

LLANELLI'S REQUEST to inchude the Welsh international and recent signing Scott Quinnell against Perpignan was turned down yesterday by European Rugby Cup officials.

Llanelli had sought permission to play Quinnell, the No 8 signed from Richmond, in their European Cup quarter-final tomorrow. The ERC initially gave permission for Quinnell to play but Vernon Cooper passed a fitness test yesterday, giving the club a full complement of fit forwards.

Stuart Gallacher, the chief executive of Llanelli and a director of ERC, said: "While we are obviously disappointed not to have Scott available, we had a fair hearing and will go to Perpignan in a positive mood." Llanelli's request to include

Byron Hayward and Salesi Finau as cover was also denied. The board also rejected an approach from Pontypridd, who

meet Stade Français in another of the quarter-finals, to register the hooker Tom Billups for their trip to Paris. Club rugby will return to

terrestrial television after the BBC secured rights to show highlights from the Allied Dunhar Premiership. From next year, Sunday

Grandstand will feature the biggest match of the weekend along with highlights from all the other matches. BSkyB, retains the rights to live coverage of the sport. Channel Four will also air a round-up show on Saturday mornings. The Scottisb Rugby Umon has asked the former Lord

Chancellor, Lord Mackay, to chair the independent review panel looking at the structure and running of the game north of the border. The retired peer. who admits he is not a rugby fan, is considered an ideal choice given his lack of ties with the SRU and club sides.

WIMBLEDON have named John Curry's successor as chairman to lead the world's most prestigious tennis championships into the next century. Tim Phillips, 56, will spend 1999 preparing for the job as Curry's vice-chairman before taking over the chair in 2000. Curry, with Phillips at his

TENNIS

side, will oversee the re-negotiation of television rights. The BBC's contract with the All England Club expires after next year's championships in July. Wimbledon's rebuilding programme will continue into the next century. "Tim has all the attributes

needed," Curry said yesterday. A member of the All England Club since 1966, Phillips joined the committee in 1989, the year Curry was appointed chair-

Educated at Mill Hill School and Merton College, Oxford, Phillips gained a triple blue, captaining Oxford at tennis and squash and also played for the hockey team. He reached the semi-finals of the men's doubles at the United States Championships in 1964, and in 1966 he advanced to the second round of the Australian Championships and played in the men's doubles at Wimbledon. He also played for successful Middlesex inter-county championship teams at tennis and squash.

Phillips joined British Airways in 1966 and spent 15 years overseas as the company's area manager for the Gulf, Australia and Italy. Returning to BA's headquarters in 1983, he held a number of posts, including deputy marketing director, head of logistics, deputy operations director and regional general manager Europe. He is now bead of community relations.

LINGFIELD

11.40 Prospector's Cove 12.10 Cabcharge Blua 12.40 Ajnad 1.10 Tricks 1.45 Cantgetyourbreath 2.20 Waasef 2.55 Lycian 3.30

GOING: Standard STALLS: 51, 1m, 1m 5f - outside; rest inside. DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low numbers best when stalls outside.

Equitack surface, left-hand, sharp undulating course.

Course is SE of town on B2028. Lingfield station (served by London, Victoria) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Club £13, Family Enclosure £10. CAR PARK: Club £3; remainder free.

 $1 - 2 (2 \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2})$

III LEADING TRAINERS: G. L. Moore 92-703 (131%), M. Johnston 53-304 (174%). R Hamnon 52-403 (12.9%). Lord Huntingdon 48-239 ELEADING JOCKEYS: J Weaver 83-367 (209%), L Detroit 77-334 (231%), A Clark 77-656 (11.7%), R Cochrane 69-400 (17.3%) FAVOURITES: 786 wms m 2,364 races (33.2%).

LONG DISTANCE TRAVELLER: Sloux (220) & Love Academy (2.55) have been sent 270 miles. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Young Bor (1240), Dobertoon (255).

11.40 MADAGANS APPRENTICE STAKES (CLASS G) 52,500 added 1m 2f

BETTING: 4-1 Haydn James, 5-1 Jubilee Scholat, 7-1 Prospector's Cove, Such Boldness, 8-1 Kafil, Present Situation, 10-1 others

FORM VERDICT

A complex race, not least because many of the tancled hora-es are drawn high. KAFIL is too inconsistent to be of strong interest, but is capable when in the mood and could go well

12.10 MADAGANS HANDICAP (CLASS E)

surprisingly reached third place last season, also seemed to have fallen through over personal terms, but the loose ends were tied up yesterday with Broadbent, the Sheffield captain at bent and Nick Pinkney moving Wembley in May, had been on to the Shay and three players the market since failing to ne- Martin Pearson, Daio Powell gotiate an improved contract. and Simon Baldwin - travelling

bent's experience," said the Sheffield coach, John Kear.

"However we feel we've made the most of the situation by strengthening in key areas of our squad. The three players we have gained will help us build our challenge in Super League and our bid to retain the

- 14 declared - National State of the Community of the Co

FORM VERDICT A race full of out-of-form horses. SAPPHIRE SON had been struggling prior to finding some form behind Weaset test time and is facced to confirm plecings with Ghazbourg even allowing for the fact that the latter's rider took 0 easy in the clos-

SWEET MAGIC had never raced on the AW prior to joining

his current yant and tries his luck here for the first time, but

he clearly has a race such as this in him based on a recent Walverhampton second to Miss Hit and gets the vote over

1.10 MADAGANS MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,000 added 2YO 7f

FORM VERDICT

The key to this race will probably lie in the amount of improvement made by Western Command, a running-on fifth

provement made by Western Command, a running-on that on he debut recently when he started as slowly as a talback on the M25. The market will tell a story, but at least TRICKS

sets a fair standard and the drop to 71 should suit her.

lection for Great Britain.

Sheffield are now well served in that position, with the Great Britain international, Keith Senior, and their signing from Australia, Karl Lovell, both

bers of Halifax's first-team could allow yet another new re-

close season's busier clubs.

1.45 LYNHURST PRESS NURSERY HANDI-CAP (CLASS E) £3,750 added 2YO 6f

- 1u ovciared -Minimum: 7st 10tb. Ture b'cap weights: 5-10 Power 7st 4tb. Kayo Gee 7st 3tb. BETTING: 7-2 Caragetyourbreath, 5-1 Astralom, College Blue, 8-1 Polity Mills., Just Wiz, 7-1 Northern Svangall, 10-1 Zola Power, 16-1 others FORM VERDICT

An open nursery in which confidence behind CANTGETY-OURBRIEATH is fair from emphasic, although he is building a solid AW profile and the drop to 61 is almost certain to suit.

	12.40 MADAGANS HANDICAP (CLASS F) \$23,000 added 5f	2.20 MADAGANS HANDICAP (CLASS E) (DIV II) £3,750 added 1m 5f
	1 000204 AJNAD (53) R Marvn 4 10 0	(DIV II) £3,750 added 1m 5r
7	2 001260 HALF TONE (14) (CD) R M Flower 8 10 0 Dane O'Nelli 2 B	1 0-5031 SiOuX (27) C Thornton 4.9 11
	3 OE2031: SILK COTTRIGE (6) (D) R Bestman 8 9 18 (Self)H Sheptimen (5) 6 B	2 002621 WAASEF (14) (C) Miss G Kelleway 5 98 . P Fredericks (7) 8
	4 034004 ANOKATO (17) (CD) T Mis 4 B 12 L Certer 1 B	E CAME WASSET (M) (G) MES C ASSESSEY 2 50 I TREAD MES (I) O
		3 0500 BILLY MOONSHINE (52) G L Moore 8 9 3 Dane O'Nell 12
•	5 032335 RITA'S ROCK APE (3) R Biotherton 3 8 12 P Fradericks (7) 4	4 00-600 SCARLET CRESCENT (14) M Uster 4 B 11 .W Hutchineon (7) 9
	6 620443 FRENDLY BRAVE (4) (CC)) Miss G Kelleway 8.9 11 W Ryton 10 B	5 40000 Silver CASTOR (25) P Harris 3 8 8
-	7 251560 DANDE TIMES (9) (D) K hory 3 8 10	6 015500 ALMOHAD (46) Dr. J Scargii 3 8 9 W Ryan 11
•	8 606000 YOUNG IBNR (8) (D) P Everts 3 8 7 C Cogan (7) 8 E	7 400660 LA CHATELAINE (84) Miss 8 Sanders 4 8 1.R Winston (3) 10
	9 -00650 BALLASRLIA (9) E Paling 3 9 7 G Faulkner (3) 5	8 026000 QUEEN OF TIDES [16] S Dow 3 7 TL R Brisland (7) 3
	10 050052 SWEET MAGIC (5) (D) L Libyd-James 7 9 SKimberley Hart (5) 3	9 040051 SWEET SERENATA (83) S C Williams 3 7 10 P Doe (5) 13
•		on the personal and the person of the person
•	- 10 declared -	10 50-0 EVERY PENNY (JZ3) E L James 3 7 10
	BETTING: 3-1 Friendly Brave, 9-2 Silk Cottage, 5-1 Sweet Magic, 7-1	17 000005 TIGGY SILVANO (51) M CLITT 3 7 10
	Helf Tone, Rita's Rock Ape, 8-1 Anokato, 10-1 Ajned, 12-1 others	12 606600 KJKA (16) J Bridger 5 7 10
		13 0000-0 PERSEPHONE (J23) C Allen 5 7 10
	FORM VERDICT	_19 rienfereni _

— 13 declared —
Minumum weight: 7st 10b; Tipe handicap weights: Every Penny 7st 7b; Tiggy
Sharn 7st 10b; Nite 6st 12b; Pensphone 6st 11b;
Sharn 7st 10b; Nite 6st 12b; Pensphone 6st 11b;
Sharn 7st 10b; Nite 6st 12b; Pensphone 6st 11b;
Sharn 7st 10b; Nite 6st 12b; Pensphone 6st 11b;
Sharn 7st 10b; Nite 7st 10b;
Sharn 7st

FORM VERDICT

It hand to see past the two recent winners at the top of the handicap and with WAASEF proven at this track he is given clear preference. A move for Billy Moonshine in the market could be quite interesting but Gay Kelleway has made a good start at her new home track and Weaser will be difficult to beat. LADBROKE ALL-WEATHER TROPHY 2.55 LADBROKE ALL-WEATHER THE HANDICAP (D) (DIV I) 25,000 added 1m

FORM VERDICT Topton should go well in his current form but his best is at 7f and over this extra furiong he is worth taking on. It could be worth chancing COMEOUTOFTHEFOG who was noted going well turning for home last time and didn't get the clear-

		ns afterwards. Off the same mark today and with the Paul Doe in the plate, he should give a good account.
	3.30	LADBROKE ALL-WEATHER TROPHY HANDICAP (D) (DIV II) £5,000 added 1m
1		RAIOS (50) (C) Mrs L Stubts B 10 0 J P Spencer (3) 2
2		URSA MAJOR (16) (CD) C Allen 4 8 10 R Studholme (5) 1
3		THREADNEEDLE (17) (C) (D) K Burke 5 8 9 . D Sweeney 3
4		PERICLES (J73) Miss G Keleway 4 8 8 S Drowne 7
5	516212	WILTON (6) (CD) J Hetherton 3 9 5 M Tebbutt 0
6	200600	SWEET WILHELMINA (SS) (CD) Lord Huntingdon 5 8 5.W Ryen 8
7	550T28	BE MY WISH (16) (BF) S Woods 3 8 3
В	223083	BARBASON (17) (CD) G L Moore B B 13 Carnty Morris 4
9		MULLITOVER (24) (D) M Heaton-Elis B B 10 A Clark B
10		ANTARCTIC STORM (10) (D) R Father 5 8 8. R Winston (3) 5

10 004004 ANTARCTIC STORM (10) (0) R Fathey 5 8 8.R Witest — 10 declared BÉTTING: 3-1 Wilson, 5-1 Be bly West, 6-1 Barbason, 7-1 Multito Ursa Major, Pericles, Sweet Wilhelmina, 10-1 others FORM VERDICT With e number of front-runners in the field, all of whom are

drawn tavourably low, the pace is Blaiy to be fast and furious. It may therefore be worth taking a chance with BARBASON,

who should get a good lead from Ursa Major and Thread needle and will be frushing to good effect.

Among Men, winner of this year's Sussex Stakes, has been retired to the Coolmore Stud in Co Tipperary at a fee of IR5,000 guineas.

■ Dorans Pride has been given the all clear to run in the Ericsson Chase at Leopardstown on 28 December. Michael Hourigan, his trainer, said yesterday: "Dorans Pride is fit and well and I expect him to run well in the Ericsson. I would like Richard Dunwoody to ride him as usual." Dunwoody normally rides Florida Pearl, who is also in the Ericsson Chase. Dorans Pride disappointed last Sunday when finishing second to Imperial Call at Punchestown. His old rival Danoh is doubtful for the Ericsson as he has an infection in his off-hind fetlock.

■ Two stand-by fixtures were yesterday announced to be staged if there is exceptionally bad weather in the period between Christmas and the New Year. Wolverhampton could hold a meeting on 28 December and Southwell on 31 December.

The expert touch of boxing's 'diplomat'

undisputed light-heavyweight championship against Yolande struck on the basis of his cor-

Getting together with Moore dead. I ain't taking no chances." at his training quarters in Windsor, boxing writers of the time asked how he could possibly make the 12st 7lb limit without going to the ring in a weakened

Moore, who was probably around 14st at the outset of his around 14st at the outset of his preparation, told them not to course, this cast absolutely no worry. "I was given a secret recipe by a dying Aborigine under a gumtree in a desert near Woorawoorwoorowwoora. At least I figured he was dying - he looked mighty sick," he

WHEN ARCHIE MOORE arrived said, "I was in Australia at the here in May 1956 to defend the time, which was just as well because that was where he was. And be made me promise Pompey bets were foolishly I would never tell the secret of died. Well, how do I know be's

As the Daily Mirror's sport's columnist of that era pointed ont, Moore actually had not been in Australia since the summer of 1940, "and spent most of the time in such 'deserts' as Melbourne, Adereflection on the story.

In truth, Moore's weight loss was brought about by punishing sessions in the gymnasium for which be wore a sweat suit

Ken Jones looks at the colourful life of a resilient fighter who could talk as fast as he punched

this semi-vanishing oil until he and just above his knees. The sweat which poured off his muscular body was enough to

fill a tea cup. Another of the disciplines Moore employed to meet the problem of making a weight at which he was no longer comfortable was unsettling for fellow diners.

Like most fighters Moore was a hearty eater and sup-portive of the contemporary theory that steaks provided most nourishment. But, ever mindful of his weight, Moore would chew and and chew until tightened at the neck, wrists he had got all the goodness out

of the meat and then discard the crowd's growing displeathe tissue into a bucket.

If not a losing battle, things did not work out entirely to Moore's satisfaction. On the morning of the fight, before weighing in, he had to spend some time in a Turkish bath, which explained why he had to pace his effort carefully before stopping Pompey in the 10th

Moore's prudent strategy combined with Pompey's understandable reluctance to take chances made quickly for a contest that did not fulfil expectations. Taking heed of he was born in 1913, making

sure the referee, Jack Hart, warned Moore that unless he

put action into his work be would forfeit his title. Afterwards, in his dressingroom. Moore was asked if he had been worried by Hart's admonishment. With great dignity. Moore replied: "I thought be was very rude."

Long before an explosion in the telecommunications industry, Moore was internationally famous, a fighter of three decades whose true age was a mystery. His mother said

week Moore insisted he was born in 1916. His mother said be was born in Benoit, Mississippi; Moore said it was Collinsville.

There was nothing mysterious about Moore's prowess in the ring, however Cagey, evasive and a fast puncher he beld the light-beavyweight title for 10 years from 1952 - by then 39, longer than any other fighter. When Moore did not like the way be was treated by the boxing community, he campaigned against perceived wrongs. When a sanctioning body threatened to take away his title for refusing to defend it at their time of bidding, be appealed to

the United Nations. President Eisenhower once

him almost 85 on his death this invited Moore to the White House for a meeting on juvenile delinquency. "Are you a Republican or a Democrat?" Eisenhower asked. "Neither," Moore replied. "I'm a diplomat."

Fighting at a time when purses were only a fraction of what they are today Moore made money where he could. He sold used airplanes. When Moore fought in San Diego he took the ring announcer's micropbone to advertise a restaurant - "The Chicken Shank" - be owned there.

In retirement Moore was recruited to work with George Foreman. Before Foreman knocked out Joe Frazier in 1973 to become the beavyweight champion, Moore forecast the outcome in near perfect detail.



Moore in the gym last year

"How can you be so sure?" he was asked. "Because I'm an expert," he replied.

All the men Moore fought including Rocky Marciano, and Muhammad Ali for the heavyweight title (when be was 49) conceded that to him.

Bruce is a no-go area, United told

SHEFFIELD UNITED have said they will resist any approach from Manchester United for their manager Steve Bruce, who has been linked with a return to Old Trafford to take over as Alex Ferguson's No 2 following Brian Kidd's move to Blackburn

"There has been absolutely no approach from Manchester United for Steve and we would not welcome one," Philip Wood, the Blades chief executive, said.

Liverpool's mauager, Gérard Houllier, is having talks with Bayern Munich's veteran centre-half, Thomas Helmer, with a view to hringing the player to Merseyside on a free transfer. Helmer is looking for around £1m a year, and the salary and the length of contract may yet cause problems.

BY NICK HARRIS

Plate for the Spanish international striker Juan Antonio

Struggling Oxford United yesterday completed formalities for the sale of their England Under-21 left-back, Simon Marsh. to Birmingham City as they try to stave off their continuing financial crisis.

The eventual fee could hit £400,000, with United receiving an initial payment of £250,000. a further £50,000 after 40 firstteam appearances and a further £100,000 if Marsh helps City

end of the season, Rangers will pay a fee. Otherwise he will Pizzi. The 30-year-old, who has scored eight goals in 22 appearances for Spain, joined the be a free agent in the summer. Nigel Martyn and Lucas Buenos Aires club in the sum-Radebe yesterday both agreed mer from Barcelona for £1.2m. to extend their contracts with Leeds United by two years.

Jesper Mattsson, from Sweden's Halmstad, has signed a two-and-a-balf year contract with Nottingham Forest, The 30year-old central defender has heen capped once for Sweden.

Wolverhampton Wanderers have appointed the former Bristol City manager John Ward as the new assistant manager at Molineux. Ward, who has also had spells in charge of York City and Bristol Rovers. Chelsea have offered near-£2m to Argentina's River The Rangers chairman. becomes Colin Lee's deputy.

Inswich Town are giving Mar-seilles' French Under-21 international right-back Hamada Jambay a one-week trial.

Asian football officials will bold an emergency meeting next Tuesday to decide what action to take, having been awarded only two qualifying slots for the 2002 World Cup.

The European Champions' League was yesterday formally increased to 32 teams at a meeting of the Continent's football's governing body. Uefa. It was also confirmed that the Uefa Cup and the European Cup-Winners' Cup will be merged into one tournament from next season. Precise details will be announced today. EUROPEAN CHAMPFORES LEAGUE: 1999-2009 Schedule released by Uefa yesterday: First qualifying round: 14 and 21 July. Second qualifying round: 28 July and 4 August. Third qualifying round: 28 July and 4 August. Third qualifying round: 11 Aug and 25 August. First round (eight groups of four beams): 10 be combested on Medicedays and Thursdays: 15 and 16 September. 22 and 23 September. 29 and 30 September. 30 and 21 October. 3 rad 28 October. 3 and 4 November. 5econd round (four groups of four): 24 and 25 November. 8 and 9 December. 1 and 2 March. 8 and 9 March. 15 and 16 March. 22 and 23 March. Quester-finals: 5 and 6 April. 19 and 20 April. Semi-finals: 3 and 10 May. Final: 24 May. UEFA CUP 1999-2000 SCHEDULE (10 be contested on Tuesdays): Qualifying round: 10 and 24 August. First round: 14 and 28 September. Second round: 19 October and 2 November. Third round: 29 Ctober and 2 November. Third Pourter-finals: 14 and 21 March. Semi-finals: 4 and 18 April. Final: 17 May. from next season. Precise de-



China's Xu Shan powers to the fastest qualifying time of Imin 11.43sec in the women's 100 metre breaststroke heats at the Asian Games in Bangkok yesterday. The final was won by her compatriot Li Wei in a time of 1:08.95. She left Xu trailing more than a second behind

Leaver still in charge says Premier League

PETER LEAVER is believed to way in which they were apbave won his battle to stay on pointed without consultation. as the Premier League's chief executive after a special meeting of Premiership clubs was beld yesterday amid concerns that he could even be voted out over the appointment of two media advisers.

The meeting was called after last week's scheduled meeting between the 20 clubs when six of them - Manchester United. Arsenal, Liverpool, Newcastle. Leeds and Wimbledon - demanded to see the financial terms of the contracts offered to refer back to the clubs. Sam Chisholm and David Chance. Despite having signed a confidentiality clause, the clubs' concerns at the media adyesterday's meeting in London. months ago. "The clubs have

Leaver looked to have surconcerns are still understood to remain among some chairmen

Reports bad indicated that not only was Leaver ready to resign after the row last week but of office by the clubs yesterday afternoon. However, there was not believed to have been a vote of no confidence in him. The general consensus seems to have been that Leaver and the chairman, Sir John Quinton, retain the legal right to make certain decisions without having to In a statement, the Premier

League was keen to emphasise that the clubs had not sought at any stage to oust Leaver from visers' potential earnings led to the position be took up 17 held a useful meeting on a vived a potential rebellion, but range of issues relating to the appointment of media advisers," the statement said. "There is, at the lucrative terms offered to despite Press speculation, to be the former BSkyB executives, no change to the leadership of Chisbolm and Chance, and the the FA Premier League."

Shindler's treatise for addicted and afflicted

WHAT TRAUMA can turn a nice Jewish hoy, grammar school and Cambridge-educated, writer and producer of award-winning screenplays, loving hushand and doting father, into a "furniture-kicking, door-slamming, growling bear" on Saturday nights? The answer, in Colin Shindler's case, is painfully simple: supporting Manchester City.

When Tony Adams called his book Addicted he hit on a word that links the numerous books which, in the wake of Fever Pitch, attempt to convey the almost drug-like dependency of otherwise rational human heings on the fortunes of a particular team. Afflicted might have been more apposite for Shindler's memoir, if not nearly as eyecatching as Manchester United Ruined My Life (Headline, £14.99).

If any club has ruined his life, it is City; to paraphrase David Niven on Errol Flynn, you can always rely on them to let you down. Yet while there are obvious similarities with the classic of the genre there was something very Nick Hornby about Shindler's refusal to buy Gillette products after seeing Tommy Docherty advertise them on television this is not just another football ohsessive's book

It is more autobiographical and deals sensitively with the subject of loss, notably the sudden death of his mother Strachan." If I'd known you takes us to a leshian bar in the memories rival the assas-

حكذا من الاحل

book, I'd never have allowed you access," the manager writes on the dust jacket. "It gets too close. I enjoyed it... I just wish it was about some

other cluh." The book turns into a struggle between the writer's hunger for knowledge and the insiders' desire to keep their working practices private. Gekoski gleans enough to make it worthwhile, though one can he sure some of the Coventry players felt betrayed by the more revealing material

Colin Ward also uncovers a closed world in his fan'seye view of the World Cup, Well Progged Ont Mainstream, £9.99). It is not, however, the hooligans or the players whose internal workings he exposes, hut those of the press.

As an England supporter who was also accredited as a writer, Ward was well placed to observe their practices. He finds Glenn Hoddle's betes paranoid and openly aggressive towards him - the result of a feeling among foothall journalists that they were "stitched up" by Pete Davies follower, Gekoski was sur- in his Italia 90 odyssey. All

Played Out. The tensions between Ward and the reporters make for squad for a season. Not as sur- gripping but uncomfortable prised it transpires, as Gordon reading. His travelogue also

serving alcohol) and into the thick of fighting between English drunks and North Africans in Marseilles.

tarnishes the wonderfully titled Just the Three Weeks in Provence by Tom Shields and Ken Gallacher (Mainstream, £9.99). Gallacher chronicles Scotland's customary gallant failure at France 98, Shields' diary captures the hevvyfuelled sense of fun and sheer

ingenuity of their fans. Among the images he records is one of kilted Caledonians doing a Marilyn Monroe over an air vent in Paris. Then there is the tragic tale of the bagpipes which survived the Boer War and two World Wars but were hroken before the finals were a week old. Plus irrefutable evidence of the existence of the Tartan Navy, first mooted in 1978 when a submarine full of Scots

Talking of which, Mike Wilson's Don't Cry For Me. eloquently put it),

For Scots of a certain age taining.



MacLeod: Tragi-comedy

ination of Kennedy (not the Man City one) as what Wilson calls an "I-remember-where-I-was-when-I-heard" experience. One back recalls the colleague whose column warned against premature euphoria and suggested there were other countries in with a chance. He received a box in the post containing "a giant turd" and a note accusing him of being a traitor.

Finally to You're Not Singing Anymore (Ehury Press, £8.99), in which Adrian Thrills has collected hundreds of the chants and songs which gave the British game its unique atmosphere, examining their origins and impact as well as the links between Argentina (Mainstream, football, pop music and youth culture. In an age when allseater stadiums are killing wit and decibel levels - Old Trafford is often so quiet with MacLeod's mission to "bring 55,000 inside that you can hear Alex Ferguson's chewing gum - Thrills' researches are as timely as they are entered

11.00

Morris's minor miracle

AFTER 11 weeks at the top of the Football Conference, Cheltenham were replaced last weekend by Kettering Town, who claimed a two-point lead in the league by virtue of a 2-0 win

The Northamptonshire side were, according to Ladbrokes, 20-1 outsiders for the Conference title at the start of the cam paign. Last season they were stuck at the bottom of the table for three mouths after failing to win any of their first 14 games. They eventually recovered to finish 14th, but they were not expected to be among the frontrunners this term.

The credit for the Poppies finding full bloom must go to their experienced manager, Peter Morris, who returned from King's Lynn in the summer for a second spell in charge at Rockingham Road. During tering to successive Conference top-five finishes between after leaving the Army. 1987 and 1992.

predecessor. Steve Berry. roles of assistant manager and League club Workington.

NON-LEAGUE NOTEBOOK

BY RUPERT METCALF

the former Lincoln City rapidly losing their reputation defender Mark Hone, the ex-Nottingham Forest and Preston midfielder Paul Raynor, and four players from his former club King's Lynn: Lee Hudson, Brett McNamara, Martin FA Umbro Trophy, going down Matthews and Craig Hopkins.

The most promising new recruit brought to Kettering by Morris is, however, the 18-yearold forward Ben Wright. Discovered playing for a local village club, Deeping Rangers, Wright bas had a trial at Leeds United, for whom he played two games in the FA Premier Brewery Northern League Academy Under-19 League. Another man to attract the scouts is the 21-year-old midhis first reign he steered Ket- fielder Matt Fisher, who joined the Poppies in the summer

A prolific former Kettering Morris has rebuilt the squad striker, Robbie Cooke, is also which was left behind by his back at the club, this time in the

first-team coach. Tomorrow Kettering will be confident of maintaining their good run with a home game against

struggling Barrow. Kidderminster Harriers are as a good cup team. Removed from the FA Cup last week by an under-strength Plymouth Argyle side, on Monday they suffered a shock defeat in the 2-1 in a second-round replay at the hands of the UniBond League First Division cluh

Lincoin United. **Bedlington Terriers must** return to non-League reality tomorrow, a week after their brave FA Cup defeat at Scunthorpe United. The Federation side entertain Mickleover Sports in the third round of the FA Carlsberg Vase. Elsewhere, the holders, Tiverton Town, must travel to Kent to take on Deal Town while last season's beaten finalists, Tow Law Town, face a trip over the Pen-

nines to the former Football

BOOKS FOR CHRISTMAS

Football

and the part City (and Lan-cashire Cricket Cluh) play in his emotional recovery. But it has the power to make you laugh aloud, too, as demonstrated by the story of the author being woken during the night in the summer of 1968 to be told that Bobby Kennedy had been shot.

His reaction, like any true hlue of the day, was to sit bolt upright and wonder aloud why anyone would want to shoot Bobby Kennedy, City's Scottish full-back, when they had just won the League? Much as lan Wright claimed that Fever Pitch

helped him to understand sunporters, so Rick Gekoski's Staying Up: A Fan Behind the Scenes in the Premiership (Little, Brown, £16.99) may give paying customers a noires suspicious, insecure, clearer if not always flattering perspective on the objects of their devotion.

An American antiquarian bookseller and Coventry City prised when the Sky Blues' chairman sanctioned his request to hang out with the No such unpleasantness

was rumoured to be Buenos Aires-bound

£9.99) is a rivetting account, based on interviews with participants and punters, of the tragi-comedy that was Ally that World Cup home from over tha" (as Rod Stewart so



Anstralian golfing icon Greg Norman surveys the Royal Melbourne course where the Presidents Cup competition is being held, the first time it is being staged outside the United States Reuters

Internationals show united front

FOR A team defined more by where they are not from -America and Europe - than where their origins actually are, the Internationals at the Presidents Cup present a united front. "The one thing we have in common," said Frank Nobilo, "is that we come from Sover the place. We have a lot mpathy with each other."

Nobilo is one of two New Zealanders on the 12-man team that is playing the Americans in a Ryder Cup style match for the third time but the first outside the United States. Greg Turner, Nobilo's compatriot and partner for the opening foursomes, is a former winner at Royal Melbourne and the historic course is also familiar to the four Australians playing "host" to their team-

The side, for whom the national anthems at the opening ceremony went on for almost half an hour, is completed by two Japanese players and one from each of South Africa, Zimbabwe, Fiji and Paraguay. The Fijian is Vijay Singh, the USPGA champlon, hut the Paraguayan is Carlos Franco, a far less heralded player.

Franco is 33 and speaks English usually only through an interpreter. He is one of six greenkeeper at the Asuncion Golf Club, one of only three in the country. The young hrothers all caddied at the club and Carlos showed aptitude for the game, eventually becoming the big fish in the small pool of the South American Tour.

He moved to Asia, won the Order of Merit and then got

America take on golfers drawn from seven countries in an event that is gaining credence. By Andy Farrell in Melbourne onto the Japanese Tour, where

mooth Franco won his card at the US Qualifying School and will play in the States next risen to 39th in the world rankmgs, good enough for his debut. in the Presidents Cup. Past inhrothers and the son of the ternational experience includes being a member of the Para-guay team that beat Scotland at St Andrews in 1994.

cluding two this year, Last

"I put a lot into making the and make a go of it there. team," Franco said, "and this is my reward." Singh and Nick a bond between us. The one Price are friends, but Singh has area where I honestly believe been urging Franco not to re- we have an advantage over the peat his experiment of putting Americans is that we are closwith his driver during the Aus- er as a team."

tralian Open last week. "The inhe has had six victories in- tention was to get people to know me." Franco joked.

If anyone is the inspirational leader of the team, and the reason the match was brought to season. In the meantime he has Australia, it is Greg Norman. "One thing you have to respect about the International players," Norman said, "is that for us to achieve the success we've had, we've all had to travel away from our homes, set up our base in a foreign country

after Sunday.

the team bus.

in Steve Elkington, Price and

"What that bas done is instil

Nobilo. Get them going with a event will go to South Africa in couple of beers and it is an edu-

While the Europeans' team spirit has been a factor at the Norman missed the first Presidents Cup through ill-Ryder Cup, at least they are ness and has only just come playing on behalf of a common back from shoulder surgery. tour Most of the Internationals His doctor is concerned about play on the USPGA Tour and, as Norman pointed out, "pay him doing too much too quickly and has told the 43-year-old taxes there like everyone else". Australian to rest for six weeks The inaugural Presidents

Cup had the feel of an "in-But even though he may house" event, particularly with not make 36 holes a day. Nora 20-12 win for the Americans, man was never going to miss but after a dramatic one-point this week. The private jet has defeat two years ago, the Inbeen grounded and Norman is ternational players told US tour commissioner Tim travelling between the course and their downtown hotel on Finchem the match had to go

overseas. "We have a lot of fun," he Price, a Zimbabwean with said. "We probably have the top British parents who was once asked to play in the Ryder Cup, three joke-tellers in the world

2002, "When you see the excitement in Australasian golf because of this event here, we would like it to do the same for

southern Africa," Price said. The impact of satellite television around the world, Price helieves, has sparked a boom in the game outside the traditional strongholds. "I remember having to wait for 16mm or 32mm film to be shown at the golf club before we could see

any golf," he said. "I didn't know there was such a thing as professional golf until I was 16. Now kids can see the see people winning major championships as it

ternational team is going to get very strong. The pendulum is and Ernie Els are hoping the going to swing."

"As time goes, on the In-

Kanavys keep title in the family

EQUESTRIANISM

BY ANDREA PALMER

THE AMERICAN rider Valerie Kanavy regained the title of World Endurance Champion yesterday on High Winds Jedi after the defending champion. her daughter Danielle, retired after her horse took a tumble in the Dubai desert.

The younger Kanavy, who won the title on Peirez four years ago in Kansas, dropped out after her 16-year-old grey gelding, Peirez, took a tumble two miles from the first veterinary checkpoint in the \$300,000 (£190,000) race.

No fewer than 174 riders set off at the crack of dawn at the Abu Dhabi town of Ghantoot and endured high temperatures as they steered their mounts along the 160km (99 mile) course.

"I am delighted to regain the world title, which also makes up a bit for the disappointments of my daughter on our favourite horse, Peirez," said the 52year-old Kanavy

Valerie and Danielle Kanavv have both won the world championship on Peirez before, and Valerie Kanavy's win maintains the American hold on the championship since the first competition in 1986.

Fausto Fioricci, a doctor from Italy, was the dark horse in the field, finishing second on Faris Jabar, another grey gelding, 50 metres behind Kanavy. Japan's Daisuke Yasunaga, who trained in Australia, fin-

ished third. No official timings were released by the organisers. A computer failure meant riders were left without waiting periods for the next stages.

The Emirates, which expected its riders to be among the top three, had to be conteot with riders in fourth and fifth

Dubai's Crown Prince, Sheik Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, saw his hopes disappear when his horse, Nelson I, failed an examination at the fourth

The sheik's eldest son, Sheik Rashid hin Mohammed, also had to retire.

check point.

BOXING The current holder of the World Boxing Council super-middleweight crown, Richle Woodhall, will meet the Italian Vincenzo Nardiello, at Newcastle's Telewest Arena on Saturday 13 February, on the same bill as the encounter between Joe Calzaghe and Robin Hide. On the same bill, Herbie Hide, the World Boxing Organization heavyweight champital third defence against Texas Organization in the World Boxing Scheduled to meet Buyer Scott.

is scheduled to meet Bruce Scott, the Commonwealth and British champion, for the WBO cruiser-

FOOTBALL Bristol City have signed Christian Ed-wards. Notongham Forest's 23-year-old central defender, on a

Torquay United are hoping to sign Neville Southall, the former Everton and Wales goalkeeper, from Don-Caster Rovers.
THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP Second

Catar 0.

RE-ARRANGED FIXTURE: FA Carling Premiership: Sim 7 Mar: Middlesbrough v Chelsea (previously playing Sot 6 Mar). Blon 28 Dec. 7.45: Leicester v Blackburn (previously 3.0).

WEDNESDAY'S LATE RESIRES: Encopean Champions' League Group At Croave Zagreb 1 Olympiakos 1; Porto 3 Ajax 0. Group B: Athlett Bibao 1 Galarasaray 0. Juvenus 2 Rosenbors 0.

Group C: Real Madrid 2 Spartak Moscow 7: Sturm Graz 0 Internazionale 2: Group 1: Sturm Graz 0 Internazionale 2: Manchester Utd D: Brondby O Barcelona 2; Manchester Utr 1 Bayern Munich 1. Group E: Lens 1 Dy-namo Niev 3; Panathinalkos 1 Arsenal 3.

The 2001 World Match Play Cham-pionship will be staged in Melbourne, Australia, it was announced yesterday, 64 players will play in an elim-ination match play format over five

ination match play format over five days, culminating in a 36-hole champlonship match.

NEW ZEALAND OPEN (Anchiand)
Landing Briso-round scores: GB P Tacurang (NZ), 69 R Pampling (Aus), 70 M
Campbell (NZ), 6 King (Aus), 72 R Swanson (Aus), J Dawes (Aus), M Lane (NZ), L Parsons (Aus), K Booker (Aus), 73 P Fowler (Aus), S Laycock (Aus), G Coles (Aus), B Goule (Aus), D Gental (Aus), P Moloney (Aus), N O'Hern (Aus), C Beck (US), E Bouli (NZ), D Chopra (Swe), GS: 74 M Sheppard (Eng), 77 J Rose (Eng), 78 P Smith (Sco).

ICE HOCKEY Nicky Chinn, the Cardiff Devils for-ward, has been handed a 10-match ban and a £250 fine by the Sekon-da Superheague for using his stick recklessly in a match against Lon-

rections in a match agents. Dir-don Kriights. NHL: Florida 6 Ottawa 5; New York Rangers 1 Colorado 2; Chicago 3 Ed-monton 1; Dallas 3 San Jose 3; Phoenix 4 Montreal 2; Los Angeles 2 Washington 1; Anaheim 4 Vancouver 4.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Castleford yesterday signed Darren Rogers, the 24-year-old 5alford Rogers, the 24-year-old Salford winger. The Reds' top tryscorer in 1997 and 1998, has agreed a two-year deal at Wheldon Road. Wakefield Trinity, the Super League newcomers, have signed Glen Tornlinson, the former Bradford Bulls scrum-half, from Hull Sharks. They

Last Temp Forecast

Z.12 1C Pt cloudy

6.12 -8C Chingble

6.12 -3C Cold. clear

6.12 -3CSunny spells

6.12 -1C Lt snow

7.12 -t2C

5.12 -5C

4.12 -6C

Stopes (cm)

45 145

90 140

Courmayeur ...40% Artificial covering 10 30 30.11 -10C Pt cloudy

20 160

Firm packed snow 20 40

Upr

have also signed three overseas play-ers: the St George pair Willie Poach-ing and Shane Kenward and the prop forward Frank Watene, who captained Auckland Warriors' reserve

Isabelle Autissier, the French solo

yachtswoman, was yesterday averaging 16 knots and had opened up a lead of 30 miles over second-placed Glovanni Soldini on the second leg from Cape Town to Auckland of the Around Alone Race. In Class II, Magellan Alpha's Mike Garside has extended his lead over Jean-Pierre Mouligne to 59 miles.

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP (Val D'Isère, Fr) Leading overalt standings: 1 A Meissnitzer (Aut) 525pts; 2 M Ertl (Ger) 383; 3 R Goetschi (Aut) 330; 4 (Kostner Meissnitzer (Aut) 5.25pts; 2 M Erd (Ger) 383; 3 R Goetschi (Aut) 330; 4 K (Asstrer (it) 258; 5 P Wiberg | Swe) 237; 6 R Cavagnoud (Fr) 225; 7 R Haeusl (Ger) 189; 8 A Paerson (Sweden) 184; 9 H Gerg (Ger) 178; 10 A Fiertmen (Nor! 169; 11 J Kosrefic (Groa) 152; 12 C Rey-Beilec (Swir) 148; 13 U Hrovat (Sloven) 145; 14 M Dorfmeisor (Aut) 130; 17 C Mirterwaitner (Aut) 120; 18 Z Soegael (Aus) 134; 16 S Egger | Aut) 130; 17 C Mirterwaitner (Auf) 102; 18 Z Soegael (Aus) 116; 19 B Obermoser (Aut) 113; 20 T Bakke (Nor) 90. Supper-G World Cap Standings: 1 Messinitzer 240; 2 Erd 140; 3 Wiberg 130; 4 Goetschi 116; 5 Cavagnoud 13; =6 Mirterwaitner 100; H Gerg 100; 8 Kostner 99; 9 Haeus! 93; 10 Schuster 90, Naufons Cupr 1 Austria 3,144pts; 2 Germany I,009; 3 Norway 1,006; 4 France 976; 5 Italy 908.

SNOOKER GERMAN MASTERS (Biogen) Quarter-finals: K Doherty (Rep Iri) bt S Lee | Eng) 5-3; T Drago | Malta) bt 5 Hendry (Sco) 5-2.

GOLF

I Bayern Minich 1. Group Et Lers 1 Dynamo Nicv 3; Pansthinalikos 1 Arsenal 3.
Group P: Kaiserslautern 5 HJK Heisini/
2: PSV Eindhoven 2 Benfica 2. FA Carfling Prevalenship: Chelsea 2 Ascen Villa
1. Scottish Premier Leagues 51 Johnsine 1 Hearts 1. Auto Windscreens
Shield Southern section first round:
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TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL NATIONWIDE POOTBALL LEAGUE
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TY & Sheffield Utd (7.45)
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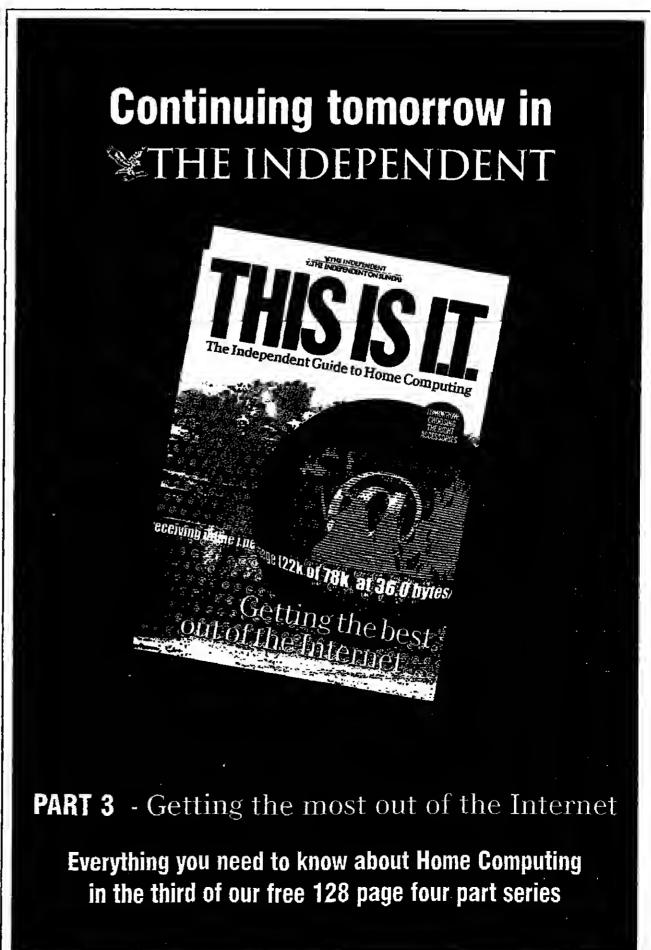
RUGBY UNION EUROPEAN CUP QUARTER-PINAL Ulster v Toulouse (7.15) (at Ravenbill) .

OTHER SPORTS BORDNG: International Boxing Organisa-tion Inter-continuous super-feether-meight title: I McLeod (holder) v L Armstrong (or Prestruck for Ink). SNEMMING: European short-course cham-pionships (or Sheffield).

TODAY'S NUMBER

7,500 The number of pounds'

bonus that summer James Hickman will collect under the terms of a new sponsorship deal if he breaks his oum world short course 200m record at the European Championships, which begin today in Sheffield.





SPORT

Waugh and Warne stand firm

AUSTRALIA WERE preparing yesterday for the third Test match, which was due to start today in Adelaide, but the focus of cricket attention in the country remained on Shane Warne and Mark Waugh and their actions four years ago in Sri Lanka.

It was revealed earlier this week that the two Australian players had been fined after accepting payments from an In- a time when Pakistan was dealdian bookmaker in return for information about the state of the pitch and the weather during a tour of Sri Lanka in 1994.

Further allegations appeared in the Australian press yesterday, although the two players re-fused to add anything of money from the bookmaker to

BY JAKE LYNCH in Sydney

substance to their story. In Pakistan, meanwhile, there was strong criticism of the Australian Cricket Board and the International Cricket Council for keeping the incident secret at porters to tackle Waugh as he ing with allegations of matchthrowing by its own players.

Warne and Waugh read prepared statements at a news conference in Adelaide yesterday but would not answer ques-

provide information he considnever discussed team tactics or line-ups. Warne said he deeply regretted the contact with the bookmaker, who gave him money in return for answering routine questions about the state of the pitch and the weather

There was a chance for reemerged for final net practice. but television pictures showed him meeting inquiries with a rejoinder which made up in straightforwardness for what it lacked in printability.

However, Mark Taylor, the Australian captain, did speak about the two players. He said

they had "made a mistake" ered "mundane", but that he but added that the current team had all expressed their support for Warne and Waugh.

Sydney's Daily Telegraph claimed yesterday to have established that the Indian bookmaker who paid the two players was actually with them in Colombo when he paid them.

The newspaper said the mysterious "John" had flown to the Sri Lankan capital to watch the Indian team, including his friend, the all-rounder Manoj Prabakhar, play in a tournament of one-day matches against Pakistan, Australia and the bost nation.

"John", the newspaper said,

Warne and Waugh through Prabakhar, who has never been associated with any allegations that money changed hands. The newspaper expressed puzelement that the bookmaker did not apprise himself of the weather conditions by "looking

out of his hotel window, or

reading the local newspaper.

the Daily News". The Australian Cricket Board has never made any attempt to question "John", said to be from Delhi, about precisely what the payments were for

Another unanswered question concerns the way in which intelligence about the pay- particular he said it would be

reached the Australian Cricket Board. In his statement on Wednesday Waugh said the board had asked him "if I had ever provided information to a bookmaker and I replied I had done so in 1994. However Alan Crompton, who chaired the board at the time, has said: "My

came to us." Meanwhile Khalid Mahmood, from the Pakistan Cricket Board, said yesterday that his organisation would take up the issue with the Australian Cricket Board as well as the International Cricket Council, In

recollection is that the players

was able to make contact with ments to Warne and Waugh first raised at the next ICC meeting next month in New Zealand. Mahmood said it was dis-

tressing that Pakistan had not been informed of the incident despite the fact that Salim Malik, the former Pakistan captain, had himself been accused by Waugh and Warne of offering the two men money to play badly in a subsequent Australian tour of Pakistan. He said the belated disclosure of the confession was unfair to Pakistan players and cricket. "Our cricket board's stance is always that such a matter should not be swept under the carpet," Mahmood said.

Australia had gone on to

Pakistan immediately after the Colombo tournament. Malik who captained Pakistan in that series, and two teammates who have also been accused of . match-fixing, Wasim Akram and Ijaz Ahmed, deny the allegations, which are now being considered by a judge in Lahore. Waugh's testimony is said to be a key plank of the case

against them. Malik confirmed his intention to sue the Australian pair for damages. "I have sufferedso much because of these false charges," he said. "They have ruined my cricket for the past

two years." Derek Pringle, page 27

Downhill all the way now for Maier and the World Cup



Hermann Maier, the reigning overall World Cup champion, sets off on a practice downhill run in Val d'Isère yesterday. The Austrian was preparing for tomorrow's downhill race, which is the traditional opening of the World Cup downhill skiing season in Europe. France's Antoine Deneriaz was fastest in practice

THE FRIDAY CROSSWORD



- ACROSS Piece of verse shows a
- 10 Cause hospital depart-
- serted in English
- ing hishop in dubious
- band and cabaret (10) 22 Goon capering round
- about m a state (6)
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- weekly (8) 12 Grouping, and sacrificgame (6)
- 14 Meals, entertained by 18 Rest for a change? (10)
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- 25 Applies wrong gloss? (8) 26 Officer kept enlisting gunners (6
- 27 Dynamic with a knight, I won the game (8) DOWN
- 1 Bird, duck, soaring
- above snare (6) Game being almost over, made to provide grub (6) Budget speech gives nothing away (6) Driver's fare involving a

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poition - i.e. "Choral" (8)

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- 17 Superhuman in comrumpus (10) Northern priest in spirited gathering (3-5) Want precocious child to up too) (6) 20 Took exam, crammed by
- be put out a pest (5,3) Sunday dish is slosh (8) 13 Choice delicacy (10) 15 Scottish commercial

Hendry's threat to retire

STEPHEN HENDRY, the sixtime world champion, revealed yesterday that he is on the brink of quitting the game. After being knocked out of

the German Masters in Vingen. Hendry said: "If I carry on like this I'm seriously thinking of chucking it in at the end of the

Hendry was a picture of dejection after slumping to a 5-2 defeat against Malta's Tony Drago in the quarter-finals of the invitation event. "It is just down to confidence. When I haven't got any I hate playing the game," said Hendry, who was whitewashed 9-0 by Scotland's unheralded Marcus Campbell in the UK Championship three weeks ago.

SNOOKER

"The last thing I want to do is take anything away from Tony: He played really well and deserved to win but my form

just gets worse and worse." Hendry, who travels to the Irish Open in Dublin next week, added: "I'll still keep practising, trying to solve the problem and I'll prepare properly for events, but I feel terrible about

my game at the moment." It looked like Hendry had turned the corner after edging Ken Doberty 7-6 in the final of the Rothmans Malta Grand Prix on Sunday to capture the 67th title of his pro-career. But the unforced errors which have situation but this time he failed haunted Hendry all year resur- to take his chance.

faced as Drago raced to victory in 76 minutes.

Drago, defeated in all of his previous 12 encounters with the

sport's dominant force of the 90s, put together a pair of 56 breaks on the way to quickly building a 2-0 lead. Hendry constructed a run of 70 to claim the third, but a 68 break earned Drago a 3-1 advantage before Hendry once again threatened

to mount a recovery. Drago re-established a two frame cushion at 4-2 by comfortably taking the sixth and led 63-0 in the seventh when be missed a simple pink. On numerous occasions in the past, Hendry has pounced in such a

Hamed teams up with Eubank

CHRIS EUBANK has ended his feud with Naseem Hamed by becoming an adviser to the World Boxing Organisation featherweight champion.

The bad blood between Eubank and Hamed flared at Heathrow Airport a year ago in a much-publicised bust-up. But they have now settled their differences and become friends.

Eubank, a former WBO middleweight and super-middleweight champion, believes that the time has come to put aside "silly things and get on with life"

He said: "I spoke to George Foreman one day and he told

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me if I felt wronged by Naz I had to put that behind me and belp the kid along. George told me to hug him and take him in." Eubank, 31, said he speaks often with Harned "Naz has the potential to become a good

role model," he said.

BOXING

"My relationship with him is to advise him on certain things. I've spoken to him about things in terms of carrying yourself in a proper fashion. Boxing is a business in which you have to enthral and infuriate. You have got to be controversial but also

conquerors, Joe Calzaghe, will fight for Eubank's old WBO middleweight crown in February. The Welshman and Robin Reid will meet at Newcastle's Telewest Arena on 13 February in the most appealing of four world title fights on the card.

"I don't think I have the respect I deserve after beating Eubank, and my aim is to go into the ring and knock out Reid in four rounds," Calzaghe said. n Archie Moore, one of boxing's legendary figures, has died at

Ken Jones, page 28, Obituary, Review page 6

Headley given. Tudor's place

ALEX TUDOR was dropped and By MYLES HODGSON Peter Such called up as the England selectors sprang two surprises yesterday when they named their team for the third Test match, which was due to

start here today. Tudor, the young Surrey fast bowler, was left out despite his impressive Test debut against Australia at Perth, Instead. Dean Headley was given the third seam place alongside Alan Mullally and Darren Gough as a reward for his impressive display in Melbourne

earlier this week. Graham Gooch, the England tour manager, said: "Alex did very well in Perth, hut we have gone for the more experienced bowlers here. This has been the toughest selection meeting I have ever been in-

volved with." Such has been very much the second-choice spinner on tour. The Essex off-spinner played his last match a month ago against South Australia in Adelaide. Glamorgan's Robert week's drawn match against

Victoria in Melbourne. However Croft's failure to impress at the MCG and Adelaide's tradition for helping spin

in Adelaide

later in the game persuaded England to recall Such four years after the last of his eight Test appearances against New Zealand at Old Trafford. "Robert Croft has played a few games and done okay but now it is time for Peter Such to be given an opportunity." Gooch said.

Such admitted: "It's a bit of a surprise but it is the nature of modern touring that if you do not get in for the first game you have to bide your time and wait for your opportunity. I've: had four years to think about . this but I'm playing for England again and looking forward to it."

England have chosen all. seven batsmen because Gooch believes they "need a strong. batting line-up to put a decent

Score on the board".

ENGLAND: M A Acherton (Lancashire)
M A Butcher (Surrey), N Hussain (Esg sed), A J Sommart (Surrey, with & capt), J P Crawley (Lancashire), M R Raws-prakash (Middlesed), G A Hick (Words-tershire), D W Headley (Kent), D Gough Ondshire), A D Middles W Geostechies

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Ernest Jones

FRIDAY REVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS • TELEVISION





IN THIS year's *Independent* Christmas Appeal, we ask you to support three charities helping older people. To highlight their work we will be publishing a series of articles offering insight into the opportunities. difficulties and dangers of old age.

Age Coocern, founded in 1948, is probably Britain's largest voluntary organisation. Some 250,000 volunteers run 2,000 day centres, 1,400 support groups and 400 shops. Others operate hospital aftercare services, drive minibuses or run good neighbour schemes to ensure that looeliness does oot destroy elderly lives.

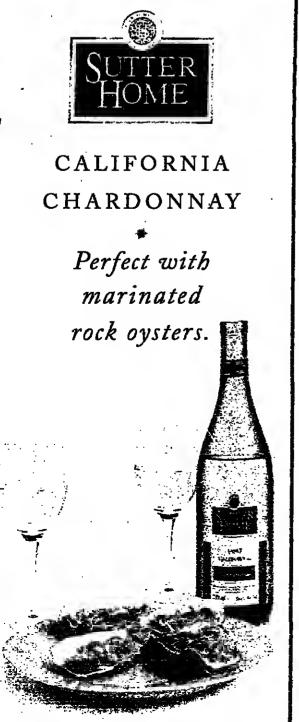
Abuse of elderly people has long been a hiddeo problem. It includes over-medication of people in residential care, the tying of resideots into chairs. physical and sexual abuse, even the maltreatment of elderly people in their homes by aged partners, Since 1993, Actioo on Elder Abuse has brought these issues to public attention.

Finally, we seek support for St Christopher's Hospice, founded in 1967 by Dame Cicely Saunders. It offers comprehensive physical, emotional and spiritual care, free of charge, from the moment an incurable illness is diagnosed to the eod of bereavement care. Each year 1,500 people benefit from such security in their final days.

All your donations will go directly to the charities, with no expenses taken for administration. Eighty per cent will go to Age Concern, the remainder divided equally between Action on Elder Abuse and St Christopber's Hospice. Details of bow to give are on Page 8. Please give generously.

MIOURTOMOTROWS

There are 11 million pensioners in Britain. Soon, there will be 12 million. For each of us, the realisation of ageing 考 a shock. And as a society, we can be judged by the way we treat our oldest members. So how do we measure up?



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advertisement? The car is a cool, gunmetal grey Ford Cougar and the driver is wearing a cool, charcoal grey suit. It takes you a momeot to register that it's the American actor Dennis Hopper, playing himself, smiling sharkily. Then an apparition takes shape up on the highway ahead - a shaggy-haired hippy loon in a hattered hat and a souped-up Harley-Davidson. It is, of course, Dennis Hopper Mark I, the 33-year-old Dennis of Easy Rider, which he directed and co-starred in with Peter Fooda in 1969.

By synchronic wizardry, the two vehicles drive along - Smoothie Four-Wheel Dennis and Crazy Biker Dennis - side by side. The two men stop for hunch and sit at different tables, so that the sexy waitress can flirt with the older man (and ignore the hairy youth). Back oo the road, they adjust their shades and, with a let's-get-serious gesture, the older Hopper roars off into the future leaving his earlier hippy incarnation far behind – stuck for ever in the slow lane, stranded in the past.

It's a work of genius, this 60-second comparison of bike and car, young and old, past and present, transient fashion and eternal cool, in which age wins out against youth. Mr Hopper is now 62. What a reassuring little dream for the mature male driver who still imagines himself kicking some butt on the highway. In terms of Shakespeare's "seven ages of man", it's the equivalent of the lean and slipper'd pantaloon carving up the lover and soldier at the traffic lights.

If only it were that simple - to reinvent the process of ageing as growing into coolness, as acquiring a kind of sexy wisdom with the advancing years. But it isn't really like that. Try as we may to halt the great wheel to which we are strapped, we know that the process of living is one of progressive degeneration. All the lifts and tucks and splints and medication and

Leaders and comment3-5

Letters

Obituaries

Features

It's especially tough oo fortysomethings. The years of 40 to 45 are when pareots die and childreo start hitting their teens and, by a weird form of mimesis, you start becoming your parents. Your attitudes harden along with your arteries. Your grip oo both emotions and intellectual retrieval slackens along with your waistline. And your body starts to change, more dras-tically than at any time since the seismic hormonal disturbances of puberty.

A terrible lethargy has begun to settle on every joint in my limbs, as if a thousand under-used muscles were in terminal revolt. My hair, relentlessly greying since I was 30, is now snow-white, like King Lear's. I can oo longer make out the road names in the index to the London A-Z, let alooe the names on the maps themselves. Odd shooting pains invade my knees when I bend to plug in the standard lamp. My dentist looks aghast at my teeth, and an-

BY JOHN WALSH

oounces that years of ferocious vertical brushing have pushed the gums virtually a thing," she snapped in real fury. above my oose and down to my chin. If I

She went on husily living for 12 years after my father died, surfing the rolling telephone, the voice on the other end will say, "Goodness, you're out of breath - have you been running?". I've developed a curious babit of pressing an index finger against my temple while talking, as though giving my foggy thoughts a symbolic massage. If I stay up carousing past 4am these days, the bags under my eyes next morning are the size of steamer trunks; one day,

they'll move into my face and stay there. You can try, Hopper-like, to celebrate the liberation that comes with age. Look on this picture and on that, you say: the studenty prat in the sweaty ringlets at 19; the callow, smirking journalist, like a draper's assistant, in his first proper job at 28; the filled-out, languid fop at 40 in the Oscar Wilde hat; and you argue that evolution is heading the right way, shedding these fool-

ave you seen the viagra and Saga Venture Holidays woo't ish, unfocused identities like so many laynew Ford TV conceal the process of irreversible decline. ers of dead skin. You can buy the theory that everyone has a perfect age. Some people are natural 18-year-olds. Some were always meant to be 26. Some greet 40 with a cry of recognition. Some are eternally 68. So it's some comfort to think that, though I was an unconvincing teenage groover, I've evolved into my natural iden-

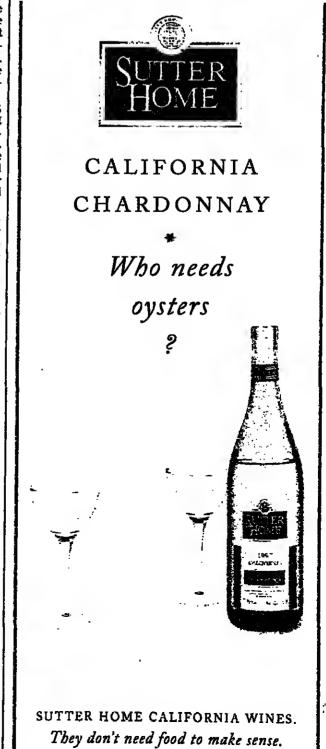
tity as a clapped-out old roué. There is one consideration, however, that stops you in your tracks. It's knowing that this is how you'll he until the end. Everyone at 50, declared George Orwell, has the face be deserves. And it's a face that, by and large, will remain that way until the accelerated collapse when you're 70 or 80, provided you aren't run over, or called in for "exploratory tests", next week.

My mother died this March, at 87. Until our last Christmas together, she was unchangingly herself, sharp-eyed, lean-faced, ginger-haired and tough, Dame Barbara Castle's younger sister. I ooce found her, aged 84, dragging a heavy dustbin through her froot gardeo to await the refuse collectors. "For goodness sake, Ma," I said, "Let me do that. You're an old lady." Her eyes hlazed. "Doo't you dare call me such

years with infinite equilibrium. Time, when it caught up with her, took a terrible reveoge. Accelerated by the cancer in her stomach, it laid waste to her face and body, covering her hands with liver-coloured blotches, making of her beautiful face a Monument Valley of sharp crevices and bluffs and secret folds, an unexpected new territory of stricken flesh. That was the final revelation of what Time is up to, what the ageing process is bringing us as well as, and instead of, wisdom.

She lived as a widow for 12 years in Oranmore, a small dormitory town near Galway. She was old and had a bowel complaint and was susceptible to loneliness. but she clung to her independence, and insisted on fending for herself in the house Continued on page 8

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(服)

6-7

Design

Science Architecture

Drugs in sport

Sir: I am a powerlifter of international standard, and although I have never taken a performance-enhancing drug, I can fully understand why athletes resort to such measures ("Fears over sport's new 'legal steroid' ". 8 December). Being a top-level competitor, in any sport, necessitates an all-consuming lifestyle. Your sport will dictate your eating and sleeping patterns, dominate your free time and, for strength athletes, leave you with constant muscular pains. It takes dedication and determination to reach the top in Britain and we endure our crippling training schedules in the certain knowledge that in the international arena, we

counct win.

I bave recently returned from the women's European powerlifting championships in the Ukraine (where Britain achieved a creditable third place). The winning "women" in several weight classes (mostly from Eastern Europe) had deep voices, square jaws, acne and facial hair. These women are not just unfortunately masculine looking. I saw some of the same women two years ago and there have been dramatic changes that could only have been caused by steroid abuse.

Almost every team manager was offered steroids at the competition venue. Our manager was outraged and when she explained that they were illegal in our country, the vendor offered to mix the steroids into a batch of creatine (a legal supplement).

Britain is one of the few countries that undertake out-of-competition random drug testing. Therefore I am certain that we have the cleanest athletes, Other athletes can pump their bodies full of performance-enhancing substances and stop just long enough to clear the chemicals

before the competitions.

All countries should have the same drug testing procedures, testing athletes randomly and at any time. All good athletes have an overwhelming desire to win. It is only when international random testing systems are in place that British athletes will have a chance of winning. It is only then that true athletes will not cheat.

ANGELA SEESURRUN London E17

Sir: In drawing attention to the widespread use of legal, but potentially harmful, performance-enhancing methods by sportsmen you have highlighted an area that requires wider debate. At present this debate is stifled, as evidenced by the condemnation heaped upon the president of the International Olympic Committee, Juan Samaranch, when he dared to suggest that the distinction between legal and illegal means of performance enhancement was not clear-cut and should be reviewed.

The use of creatine is not the only example of potentially harmful yet legal forms of assisting sporting performance. Many endurance athletes are encouraged to pursue diets which risk osteoporosis and infertility and the risks of long-term colostrum use are unexamined. Neither are we allowed to question the relative safety of currently illegal performance-enhancement methods. For example, might it be safer to complete a 4.000km cycle race in 22 days at an average speed of nearly 40km an hour (as this year's Tour de France competitors were asked to do) with the assistance of carefully monitored erythropoietin administration?

The distinction between what is safe or harmful, natural or a drug, legal or illegal is not as clear-cut as some would like. The result is sport riddled with hypocrisy and athletes at risk.

Dr A CURRIE

Wylam, Northumberland,

Sir: Did the original runner of the Marathon die on passing on his important message because be had consumed a performanceenhancing drug? MARTIN MOTTRAM Solisbury

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor. The Independent, 1 Canada Square, London E14 5DL and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address.

Letters may be edited for length and clarity



Animal wrongs

Sir: Although it would be difficult not to feel the impact of Barry Horne's decision to starve himself to death for his cause, those who campaign for the rights of animals – particularly the extremists, such as Mr Horne, who resort to violent action – miss the point.

action - miss the point.

The greatest harm inflicted by burnan expansion is not any pain inflicted on individual animals during experiments, but the continuing extinction of vast numbers of species -mainly insects and therefore not an emotive subject for campaigning - by human expansion worldwide. This tragedy is far greater and breaches a higher right; that of species not to be wiped out. Those who cry out about "torture" would do better to protest against genocide.

CHRIS KEATING

St Albans, Hertfordshire

Sir: I support the right of the animal rights activists to make the moral decision that animal research is wrong ("Animals have no rights, but we still have duties towards them", 9 December). However, they are not forced to do animal research, although in this complex society it would be almost impossible to avoid being a beneficiary of such research. For example, that fact that an individual's chances of catching an infectious disease is extremely low, whether they choose to be inoculated or not, is due to many years of this kind of research.

The targets of this moral decision are inconsistent. Top of the list are colleagues of mine who are involved one way or another with medical research, then come people who farm animals for food, research and skins and not on the list at all are the people who use

animals as pets.

The animals used for research in this country have the highest level of control over their conditions (rightly so); there are very few controls on pet ownership. The vast majority of animals in this country that are abused are pets: a

walk around Battersea dogs' home or any RSPCA establishment would show you that.

Most people do not particularly like research being carried out on animals and would not want to do it themselves hut can see the benefits to them, their children and society as a whole. Pressure by a few extremists could lead to further unnecessary controls on research involving animals in this country and a serious reduction of work being done here to belp with, as yet, incurable conditions such as cancer, dementia and Parkinson's disease. Even worse, animal experimentation will move to other places in the world where there is little or no control on animals used for research. Dr JON ROBBINS Lecturer in Pharmacology

Earthbound

University of London

Sir: By all means let mankind explore space, but let us have no nonsense that, as Michael de Whalley suggests (letter, 7 December), space exploration will be some sort of solution to the sustaining of life on this planet.

The energy costs of transferring a viable population to an as yet undiscovered new home, or of bringing new resources here,

Sir: Now that David Blunkett

has rediscovered phonics, he

should look at another

approach that works. Put a

and you will raise reading

levels by one year in a single

term. It is an amazingly cost-

effective method which takes

volunteers and helps children

Community Service Volunteers

pressure off teachers, gives

immense satisfaction to

both to read and to enjoy

ELISABETH HOODLESS

Executive Director

books.

London N1

volunteer tutor alongside a

new reader for one hour a week

would be, literally, astronomical, and so probibitive as to be inconceivable.

There is no need at all to assume the Earth will be devoid of resources next century, as P Evans asserts. Money would be far better spent tidying up the planet, controlling population, stopping pollution, ending the spiralling over-production of oil, eliminating hunger, disease and warfare.

Man has always needed

Man has always needed something to reach out to, to expand his imagination. Space exploration will and should continue, simply "because it is there".

WK PIPER

The Irish church

Staplehurst, Keni

Sir. Dr Gerard Hogan's defence of the Irish Constitution (letters, 30 November 1998) is misleading in a number of respects. In particular, he is wrong to suggest that the Catholic Church was "disappointed" with the special position it was accorded in the constitution.

John Charles McQuaid, President of Blackrock College (Holy Ghost Fathers) and later the renowned Archbishop of Duhlin, was closely consulted by de Valera in the drafting process and belped

"Smart girls settle for life's

Dobbins." I am married to a

Dobbin. But I certainly did not

"settle for" him. In my twenties

I met my fair share of George

Osbornes. Nothing ever came

of these liaisons because what

I really wanted was a Dobbin. I

just did not know it at the time.

GILL YERRELL

Richmond, Surrey

write some of the clauses. There can be no doubt that Rev McQuaid was acting for the Catholic Church in this matter.

What Dr Hogan probably means to suggest is that the Irish constitution did not give a formal position of Establishment to the Catholic Church, But official, mainstream, Catholicism understood very well that a measure of religious diversity was required in a constitution which aimed to eventually encompass the northern Protestant people of

the island.

The result of the compromise is that Catholic social power in Ireland has been exercised in an informal, unaccountable way. A formal concordat or Establishment would in fact have limited that power – just as Establishment cramped the independence of the Church of England.

At the same time it must be said that public life is freer and less hypocritical than in Britain. There have been, and are, Irish counterparts to Robin Cook (and his "mistress") and to Ron Davies – and they have not been driven from ministerial office, or forced to regularise their positions. Catholicism in Ireland is in many respects approaching Continental norms, while Britain seems stuck

IN BRIEF

Sir: If, eventually, a statue is set up on that empty Trafalgar Square plinth (leading article, 8 December) I wonder if it could be made from some form pobbin" (8 December) struck a chord; the only false note was your front page headline:

Sir: If, eventually, a statue is set up on that empty Trafalgar Square plinth (leading article, 8 December) I wonder if it could be made from some form of hiodegradable material, so that when we have forgotten who we are trying to

it away.
London has too many
statues, many of people who
are virtually forgotten. Who
was the Duke of Cambridge
(Whitehall) and what did be do
for us?
LESLIE JERMAN
Theydon Bois,

remember we could just sweep

in its puritanical (and prurient)
non-conformist conscience rut.
ANGELA CLIFFORD
Editor, Church & State
Cork, Ireland

Lib Dem strategy

Sir. In these days of "control freak" leadership, open debate and consensus may not make such good news stories. But I feel I have to correct your report ("Lib Dems demand debate on Labour", 3 December), which gives a rather misleading impression of the Liberal Democrat Federal Executive meeting beld on Monday evening.

At the last FE meeting the idea of a ballot of party members on our strategy of co-operation with the Government in a Joint Cabinet Committee was floated, and the Executive, several of whom favoured the idea, decided to revisit the possibility at this month's meeting.

In the meantime, various of the

Party's constituent bodies, including the Association of Liberal Democrat Councillors, have met to discuss the issue, and the usual consultation mechanisms of the Party have been followed. The feedback has strongly indicated that the Party wishes to concentrate on the great campaigning opportunities of the 1999 elections. The pressure has been dissipated, there is very little appetite for a Special Conference and one is not likely to be called. For this reason we passed a motion deciding against a ballot of

the membership at this stage.

We are now keen to "get on with husiness" and have decided to hold a debate on Party strategy at our autumn conference in Harrogate.

The leadership has suggested that we signal this intention to the Party at large when it meets in Edinburgh in March.

This motion was passed with only one objection.
Baroness MADDOCK President of the Liberal Democrats
London SW1

Political markets

Sir: George Soros and others are quite wrong to blame financial markets for the global economic crisis that erupted in Asia ("Is capitalism heading for breakdown?". 2 December). The root causes of these problems were all political; the financial markets were merely the bearers of the bad news.

news.

The basic problem was and remains heavy government intervention in the banking markets of those countries.

Financial regulation initially forced a lot of money into highly suspect but politically favoured schemes. When the loans went sour, more financial regulation and politically-controlled central banks sent ever-increasing amounts of new, good money after the growing pile of old, bad money.

A political lender of last resort can successfully put off a small, short-term crisis, but only by risking a bigger crisis later. Eventually the crunch will come.

The situation now is that no one wants to lend more money into a system that still refuses to write off its debts, is still sending good money after bad, and is therefore unable to repay new loans.

The politically-created bad loans

are now so big even their
governments cannot bail them out.
This is why Asian markets and
currencies have collapsed. It is not
a market failure, it is a political
failure; Asia will not recover until
its financial markets are
deregulated.

Don't blame Lewis

M NISBET

Brentwood, Essex

Sir: Philip Hensher (Comment, 4
December) is right to observe that
the Narnia stories contain
evidence of C S Lewis's misogony
and racism. He is wrong to
conclude that they are therefore
bad or harmful. Some of the
political and social mores
expressed in the books are
ohnoxious when viewed from a
liberal Nineties perspective, but
Lewis can hardly be hlamed for
living in the time he did.

The importance of the stories lies in the very fact that the author was indeed flawed and imperfect. an intellectually astute man who had unconsciously come to use his academic skills as a defensive compensation for much that was arrested in his emotional development. I believe he .. dais subliminally expressed aspects of his own struggle in the Namia stories, through powerfully symbolising the extremes of good and bad, right and wrong, joy and grief, reward and renunciation in his characters and situations. Children have responded to these sometimes stark (what Hensher would presumable regard as unimaginative) symbols in much the way they have to other fairy stories which resonate strongly with their own internal emotional processes.

To suggest that Narnia should be dropped down a hole for failing to be imaginative or politically correct is as absurd as suggesting Snow White, Rumpelstiltskin or Mother Goose should meet a similar fate for the same reasons. CHRIS MILLS Both

Pinochet and I

Sir. When I arrived in the UK, 24 years ago, I never imagined that one day I would share my exile with Pinochet. After some nightmarish years I managed to rebuild my life, away from the viciousness of Pinochet's henchmen. Today, with my family, England is home; now I am so proud of it. The time has come for us, the victims of persecution, to shout with joy and for dictators to fear. This is history in the making. GAD LEVY Brookmans Park, Hertfordshire

Sir: Am I the only person who would be pleased if Argentina requested the extradition of Margaret Thatcher? PETER SKELLERN Nottingham

17-47

71

Is there really a way of avoiding Bracknell?

AS CHRISTMAS comes ever nearer, like an express train heading towards an unmanned crossing. I sense a feeling of panic in the air, a lack of ideas for presents, which can best be expressed in the question: "Isn't there some new book out which would make the ideal Christmas gift, if not by Michael Palin, at least by someone else?"

Indeed there is, and today I am bringing you the top Christmas book bargains on the market, any one of which will make the perfect present for someone who can read, or indeed, considering that most Christmas book gifts remain untouched, anyone who can't read.

Women Are From Venus, Men Are From Basingstoke hy Dr Graybeard, Garfunkel & Schuster, £13.99. Dr Graybeard has two theories. One is that if you write a book purporting to explain the difference between men and women, you will sell millions of copies. Two, that women are interested in arriving but men interested only inhow they got there, which is why men waste half their lives in endless conversations about the best way to avoid Bracknell. But is chatting about B roads and parking spaces another form of sex? Dr Graybeard does not commit himself.

The Thomas Hardy Book of Wessex Girl Jokes edited by Gyles Brandreth, Heritage Ho Ho Press, £13.99. A lovely taste of old England. Sample Thomas Hardy joke: "Hey, did you hear the one about the Wessex girl who was about to get married but found that her fiance had heen transported for life on a

ories. One is that if you write a book purporting to explain the difference between men and women, you will sell millions of copies. Two, that trumped-up charge by a magistrate who fancied her, and so committed suicide on the day before her wedding day? Well, you have now!"

Eat PJ O'Rourke by Will Hutton, HarperJoanCollins, £13.99. The idea behind this book is that if a comedian like P J O'Rourke can write a book about economics, then surely an economist can make a quick buck by doing a book about the economics of the comedy world? Hutton unearths some pretty depressing statistics about the stranglehold exerted on comedy by the handful of huge corporate agencies, and sees no future for comedy unless we can free the means of production and... well, actually, we didn't really understand the rest, but Will Hutton seems pretty cross about something. Not many jokes.



MILES KINGTON

Women are interested in arriving but men interested only in how they got there

The Late Enoch Powell by Simon Hodder, Heffer & Stoughton, £13.99. A book which will come as a considerable shock to anyone who thought Enoch Powell was still

Lafontaine's Fables by Oskar Lafontaine, Europress, £13.99. A welcome reissue for the best fables by
the renowned story-teller, Lafontaine, including such classics as
"The Big Goat, the Little Goat and
Tax Harmonisation", "The Little
Boy Who Cried 'Rebate!", and
"The Crow and the Cheese which
Broke EU Pasteurisation Regulations". Endless hours of fun.

The Penguin Book of Conversations edited by Paul Theroux, Penguin, £13.99. It seems unlikely that any of us can remember any past conversation in much detail, but Paul Theroux claims the opposite the points out, for example, that he can remember chats he had with V S Naipaul years ago, word for word) and he points out that all travel writing includes closely reasoned conversations which may well have taken place, or, if they didn't should have.

The Life of Birds by David Attenborough, Penguin, £13.99. As one of the birds he interviews says, "It's not much of a life as a dolly hird—work all week in a dead-end job, doll yourself up for the weekend, go out, meet some bloke who doesn't even phone back when he said he would, then find yourself pregnant…" Grim and powerful.

How to Write a Cookbook by Delia Smith, Cook Books, £13.99. Back to the basics with Delia, as she shows you how to choose a simpla idea, as fresh as possible, then prepare it and serve it up as simply as possible, sprinkling it with lots of lovely photos, then publish it and sell lots and lots of it.

Interviewing the English by Jeremy Paxman, Acacia Press, £13.99. Jeremy Paxman brings his formidable interviewing techniques to bear in this revealing book. Here is a telling sample: Purman: What makes you English? Man: Well, I don't know, really. Parman: Come on, don't shilly shally – I want an answer! Man: Is it something to do with racial background? Parman: No – the answer is, the urge to go on TV quiz shows and make a fool of yourself. No points.

More Christmas books soon!

حكذا من الاحل

RIDAY REVIEW

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An age-old issue that all of us must confront

WE ARE all getting older, so The Independent's Christmas appeal on behalf of old people is not asking for charity towards some tribe of unfortunates who find themselves in our midst, hut for a better understanding of our collective self-interest.

We do not wish to add to the portrayal of old people as the powerless victims of neglect, poverty and discrimination - aithough these are real problems. What naturally follows from that perception is the mere loading of the victims with tea, sympathy and hand-outs - again, these may be needed, but pity is not the whole story.

We should start by looking down the other end of the telescope, by beginning with the contribution we can all continue to make to society when we are old, by reconnecting young and old, and by facing the reality of physical decline and death with a fighting spirit. When people bave children, the point of grandparents suddenly becomes obvious: it is then that we can see the waste of human potential produced by a society which isolates and demeans people who have passed an arbitrary "use by" date - a society with, at the same time, a vast unmet need for high-quality child care, for supplementary education. for advice, counselling, mentoring and supervision.

No one much likes being called old, which is part of the problem. Our culture of youth-worship bas spawned a range of euphemisms, some of which, like "the elderly". are more demeaning than plain English. The Prime Minister called them "senior citizens" in the Commons this week, which is not a bad eupbemism, even though it sounds dated on this side of the Atlantic. Tony Blair's language epitomises the problem. Last month he had to crash his rhetorical gearbox into reverse: "When I spoke before the election of wanting to create a Young Country. there were those... who saw this as a wish to turn Britain into a nation where only the young can prosper. It was nothing of the sort. It was a pledge to build a country where all are valued." Of course it was, Prime Minister. To be fair to him, he has also spoken persuasively of the need to rebuild communities on the building-blocks of strong and, by implication, extended families.

But he has not followed fine words with anything like enough action. With his talent for asserting that black is simultaneously black and white, that marriage is both better than and equal to non-marriage, be claimed that the Young Country was a promise "to remove the old barriers which prevent everyone, whatever their age, from playing their full part in our society". In which case, why was Ian McCartney's pledge to outlaw age discrimination aropped from the manifesto? All that is now being offered is a "code of conduct" for employers, and it is not even clear whether employment tribunals will refer to it.



There is certainly a disparity between the Government's efforts directed at the young unemployed and lone parents on the one hand, and old people on the other. It could be bluntly argued that more is at stake with a young person who faces a lifetime on the scrap-heap than with someone who has been retired early, at the age of 50, and may never find another job. But the extent of the disparity is unjustified, especially when old people could be part of the solution to the problems faced by the young.

In particular, the idea of one-to-one contact between government agencies and benefit claimants is one that should be extended to pensioners. Harriet Harman, in her 14-month tenure at Social Security, set up pilot schemes to test the best ways of ensuring that pensioners take up the benefits to which they are entitled. But we already know that one-to-one interviews are the best way to proceed, a method that could also be adapted, like the a valuable contribution to society, as well as simply assessing their needs.

In a week in which it has become clear that the Government will duck radical reform of the ramshackle structure of pensions, we should try to balance that debate by looking at how people can continue in flexible work after the age of 65, rather than simply regarding them as a burden. It should be obvious that one of the solutions to poverty in old age is for people to have jobs available for longer.

Of course, there is a growing burden of care on young people, and even on the "less old". We should not lapse into an optimistic fantasy of fit and happy grannies busily propping up and holding together the young people's show, or even an imaginary world populated by vigorously bad-tempered Victor Meldrews. As physical bealth improves and longevity lengthens, the problems of New Deal for young people, to help old people to make senility grow. In our Christmas appeal, we also want to young will continue to divide us.

support work against the physical abuse of old people, which is often associated with the frustrations of looking after the difficult and the disoriented. The dangers of tragic abuse of children's trust in residential institutions is now well known, but we should extend those lessons to make sure that old people in similar circumstances are not isolated and ignored.

And, finally, our appeal will support the hospice movement, which has been the most important step forward in recent years towards greater dignity in death. Hospices are not just for the old, of course, but part of the reason for modern society's unhappy attitude to old people is that it reflects not just our fear of death, but our embarrassment about it. Death may never lose its sting, but bospices provide places which at least acknowledge what is going on. Until younger people are able to look such facts in the eye without blushing, the gulf between old and

Memo to Mr Blair: Europe could turn you into the new John Major

THE GREAT Tony Blair European balancing act moves to Vienna. There it is in Britain's self interest to be so". he is, displaying an easy rapport with his fellow EU leaders, showing a new "engagement" with Europe. There be is again, battling for Britain over its rebate. How long can he be a good European and, simultaneously, the Prime Minister who refuses to cave in when "Britain's interests", as defined by a Eurosceptic press, are at stake? The answer lies in the experience of Blair's predecessor.

When John Major took over as prime minister he had no doubt that, in Europe, warm words and greater co-operation were needed to replace the Thatcherite handbag. Such a move was in Britain's self interest. Indeed so confident was he of his new direction that in his first year as prime minister rarely a speech went by in which he did not make his case. The following is typical:

"It is because we care for lasting principles that I want to place Britain at the heart of Europe. But partnership in Europe will never mean passive acceptance of all that is put to us. No one should fear we will lose our national identity. We will fight for hitain's interests as hard as any govanment has done before. I want Britain to inspire and shape Europe in future as decisively as we have over the single market. Then we will fight for Europe's interests too: not from the outside, where we would lose, but from the inside where we will win.'

Major was attempting to pick up the pieces after the final months of Eurohysteria under his predecessor by being, as Tony Blair puts it now,

Indeed, there is no difference at all between the early Major declarations about Europe, and the responses Tony Blair has given in recent Prime Minister's Question Times to questions about tax harmonisation

There are, of course, big differences m the personalities and outlooks of these two. It is impossible to imagine Major making a speech in France in the native tongue of a Europhile audience, to give one example of the way in which Blair has occasionally wowed them in Europe. And Blair "engages" in Europe with most of his backbenchers looking on supportively, while Major made his "heart of Europe" speech in 1991 with the grieving Thatcherites reassembling for battle.

and the rebate.

But the comparison between the two Prime Ministers is far from meaningless and contains an important lesson for Blair. For the experience of Major reveals that the balancing act which Blair is now attempting, and which his predecessor briefly attempted, is not sustainable. When the rhetoric of "Britain's self-interest" and being "fully engaged in Europe" is faced by the real substance of decisions and negotiations, it is rendered useless. For the Eurosceptic press regards "self-interest" as defeating those wretched Europeans

on every occasion. I use the term "early Major" because it is the most forgotten period in recent British politics, obliterated from our collective memories by the mire into which his government de-



STEVE RICHARDS

The early Major days are the most forgotten in recent politics, a heady time with record-breaking poll ratings

scended after the 1992 victory. The earlier period was quite different, the first, almost convincing attempt at huilding a post-Thatcher style of government. They were heady days, with record-breaking opinion poll ratings for Major himself. Part of the reconstruction was a more positive approach towards Europe, in style and in substance. As Blair has had to rebuild relationships in Europe after the dying years of Tory rule, so Major felt similarly obliged after the shrill "No, No, No"s of Thatcherite diplomacy.

Immediately Major went about mending fences with Kohl and others. He sounded constructive even about monetary union, arguing that it should be based on open and free markets and depend upon a much greater economic convergence. Certainly be did not attack it with a sledgehammer. plans to centralise income tax or cor. New Statesman'

He tried to reposition his party as more pro-Europe. The extract quoted ahove is not from the famous "heart of Europe" speech he made in Bonn, with an appreciative Kohl by his side. He uttered those words to Conservative activists at a party conference in 1991. For a brief time the Tories under Major, and Chris Patter as party chairman, looked as if they could

work with Europe.
In reality, behind the firm handshakes exchanged with other leaders, Major had not resolved how he could show to the Eurosceptic press and Tory MPs that being at the heart of But what does a prime minister do when the rest of Europe wants to move fast in a specific direction and he is opposed to the speed, and has tig doubts about the destination? In Major's case, domestic politics and his own growing scepticism answered the question for him. He became the wielder of the veto. The noble aspir-

ations were displaced by a beef war. In using the same terms of debate as early Major, Blair faces similar difficulties. He is being sincere in regarding self-interest and co-operation within Europe as one and the same. The problem in terms of the domestic argument is that self-interest has become so firmly equated with never giving ground. The row over Britain's rebate has little to do about the level of our financial contribution. Blair knows that to give up 10 pence of it would be politically disastrous. Similarly the recent row over tax harmonisation has nothing to do with poration tax, as the convoluted Blair/ Shröder joint statement made clear. But the British Government has to send out a less subtle message, as well. It is "No" to harmonisation, although in some areas of taxation it would make practical sense, and Britain would be a beneficiary.

At the moment such an argument would be too subtle. Instead only blunt messages are fed to a domestic audience that apparently wants to be a member of the EU, hut only on terms that mean Britain always gets its way. Blair made a heartening attempt at Prime Minister's Question Europe was in Britain's Interests. Time this week to present a more complex case when he explained that the debate over tax harmonisation within the EU had only just begun, and was already provoking many different views from the varying governments. In my view he got the better of the populist scepticism of William Hague. The logical consequence of the Tory stance is withdrawal from the EU.

Ultimately the argument that Britain's self-interest lies in the heart of Europe can be sustained only by making a politically agonising leap: sometimes, being at the beart of Europe means losing out in order to stay there. There is only one alternative route, which is to decide that Britain's self-interest means withdrawing from the heart of Europe and winning a few Pyrrhic victories for the benefit of domestic audiences in the process. This is the route that Major took. Look what happened to him.

The writer is political editor of the

cision that means that

Pinochet will not be able to

leave Britain for a long time.

However much the Chilean

government and Pinochet's

supporters protest, neither

Blair nor anyone can do any-

thing for the General. He must

Labour Government. He is be magnanimous. Straw and

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"In the President's mind - and that's the beart and soul of perjury - be thought and he believed that what be was doing was heing evasive hut truthful." Charles F C Ruff, White House Counsel

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"It would not be better if things happened to men just as they wish." Heraclitus, Greek philosopher



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propriate commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the on this delicate matter... The Declaration of Human Rights Pinochet affair is doing more than the British Home Secretary's decision to allow bis country's courts to process Spain's request for the extradition of Pinochet The chet case has not only THE BRITISH Labour Governaroused international passions and unleashed controversy, but

taken on a direction and speed

that few would have dared pre-

dict. London and Madrid have

DIFFICULT TO find a more ap-

overcome powerful pressures upon them to shelve any action for international law than decades of conventions ignored by signatory governments. El Pais, Spain

ment has, in an act of political indifference to the basic legal principles stated by our Foreign fact that Chile is a sovereign

MONITOR

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD

Veredicts on Jack Straw's decision to allow the Pinochet extradition process to continue

ever, the minister can at any has had to face this century. moment take political factors into account and decree the end Ministry, sought to ignore the of the extradition process and THE MINISTER is one of the PINOCHET CAN no longer ex-clinic and tea with Thatcher.

and independent country. How- Chilean juridical sovereignty El Mercurio, Chile

silent and effective, soft on the his government have shown pooutside and hard inside, al- litical courage in taking a dethough the Pinochet case could still become his Achilles' heel. He firmly believes in socialism as a moral framework and a way of life, and undoubtedly his deepest political convictions are being put to the test. El Periodico de Catalunya,

end the gravest situation that hardest men of the current pectithe British Government to El Mundo, Spain

be cursing the day when he took the plane for the London

THE FRIDAY REVIEW

PANDORA

THE ENTERPRISE Forum, an | magazine for a porn feature organisation designed to get the Conservatives back in touch with business, was launched at Westminster's Atrium restaurant on Wednesday night. Pandora had the privilege of watching history repeat itself. For this was the Tory party attempting to do what Labour had done in opposition: gaining the confidence of the business sector and not, as the Forum's literature put it, relying on "old loyalties" or assuming "any favours for its task". The organisation is fronted by Alistair Burt, former social security minister, and staffed by former Tory party workers. one of whom told Pandora: We make no secret of our links with the Conservative Party but we are not affiliated to them. The money raised by the subscription fee goes to pay our wages." And those invited to subscribe to the Forum's string of talks given by the opposition front bench? Representatives from retail, pharmaceuticals, management consultancy and - of course - the lobbying industry.

"WE BASICALLY look at which businesses we think are taking the consumer for a ride, which are making excess profits. We ask: can we do it differently than they are doing it? Is there a real reason for us to enter into that business? Will it enhance the Virgin reputation or not? Will we have fun doing it? Will we learn a lot from doing it?" asks Richard Branson, explaining his involvement with Virgin trains tn Salon magazine this week. "Taking the consumer for a ride" on Virgin trains? It's what passengers have been crying out for Richard.

PANDORA READS with interest a tabloid newspaper's report that Paul Dodd, a known football hooligan would be book England's Number One), at the Kings Cross hranch of WH Smith today. Despite having thirty criminal convictions a spokesperson for WH Smith is quoted defending Dodd's right to perform the signing saying: "We don't censor what our customers read." That's funny. Wasn't it W H Smith who withdrew the Diana issue of Private Eye in 1997, dropped a number of specialist magazines in 1996, and banned an issue of Company

in 1994? Pandora spoke to Catherine Lister, the WH Smith executive quoted, and found out that Dodd's launch has now been cancelled, but that the book will remain on sale. "We stock books that our customers want to buy." Lister added.

THERE WAS some amusement at the preview for BBC2's new series Inside the Lords on Thursday. One clip, from a programme to be sbown next year, featured the deposed Tory Lords leader Viscount Cranborne. To camera, Cranborne laments, "I am always being accused of having rows with William Hague. As far as I know our relationship is extremely cordial." Oh, sweet irony!

EUROCENTRIC" WAS the word used to describe one American school's plans to put on play adapted from . Charles Dickens's A Christmas Carol. Members of the Washington school's administration, parents and students felt the play was so Euro-slanted that they forbade the performing arts department from putting it on. A rebel mother told the Washington Times: "I guess all we Tiny Tim fans have been wrong for all these years, and we are in need of political re-education and self-criticism for our oppressive bourgeois views." The school will replace the production of A Christmas Corol with The Secret Garden, written by the, er, **English author Frances** Hodgson Burnett.

> AT THE end of the second week of Pandora's Tony Banks vigil the great man (pictured) still spurns nur invitation to vindicate the epic tome, The Wit and Wisdom of Tony Bonks. Today's excerpt is агисшагіу tasty: "I am a vegetarian. However, I am nobody's turnip. I came vegetarianism fairly late in

my somewhat dissolnte life; it bas been a jnurney nf discovery... I am, bowever, no food fascist. If people wish to eat meat and run the risk of dying a horrible.

lingering bormoneinduced death after sprouting extra breasts and large amounts of hair, that, of course. entirely np to

I realised that, after I had gone

A terrifying lack of ambition

BENJAMIN. THOU shouldst be living at this hour ... I don't think Walter Benjamin altogether had this in mind when he called his famous essay "The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction": But works of art produced, as far as one can see, by thought-processes more like mechanical reproduction than the creative imagination, seem to be looming ever larger on the horizon.

A weird succession of movies is on its way; a way of film-making which, giving up even on the elementary invention of the sequel and the remake, prefers instead to produce an artefact of gruesome archeological perfection.

The American director Gus van Sant has been remaking Psycho. You might have thought that, of all films, Hitchcock's masterpiece was the one least in need of any officious tinkering. It is a terribly well-known movie, fondly remembered in the most intricate detail, and faultlessly executed throughout.

Van Sant's explanation, in an interview I read this week to coincide with the film's American release, was simply that the film is not, in fact, very familiar to American au-



PHILIP **HENSHER**

The new 'Psycho' is like your old granny given a nightmare facelift and stuffed into a miniskirt

diences any longer, and younger au-diences are frankly disinclined to sit through black and white movies. Psycho is a great film; nobody has ever seen it; so let us remake it.

What van Sant says may well be true of America, though it certainly isn't the case in Europe. But his solution is a deeply peculiar one. He hasn't, like most directors of remakes, taken the basic situation and

rescripted and reshaped it, until, like, say, the Hollywood Cage aux Folles remake, it resembles nothing so much as your old granny given a nightmare facelift and stuffed into a miniskirt. No, the van Sant Psycho quite simply takes the Hitchcock film, and reproduces it, shot by shot, scene by scene. He includes some small amounts of material that Hitchcock due to the moral pressures of his time, was unable to use; and that's it. Anne Heche replaces Janet Leigh, the film is in colour, but otherwise it's the most faithful, indeed abject adaptation.

The odd thing is that, where the original, creaky as it is, bogus as it is, cheaply made as it was, retains an unarguable power to shock and appal, this new film, many times more expensive and sophisticated, is just a curiosity. You sit, half-remembering the film you used to love, and watching it get massacred by this year's crop of clean young people. There's no point in picking boles in it, since, as Dr Johnson said, there is no arguing with unresisting

But there must be something in the air right now, If the Gus van Sant

Psycho is almost art-movie peculiar in the utter idiocy of its ambition, exhibit B is a much more smister project. Released in the same week in America, Woody Allen's new movie, Celebrity, is exactly the same sort of archaeological enterprise. It is deeply weird and sinister, one of those films he brings out from time to time which try and do the whole European art movie thing - in this case, La Dolce Vita - with a loose episodic feel and 250 speaking parts. But though Celebrity is trying like

mad to be an exact facsimile of a Fellini movie, what in fact it ends up heing is an exact facsimile of a Woody Allen movie. In the cinema in Texas where I saw it last week, the audience on the way out seemed embarrassed by the movie, and it's not surprising, you keep having to remind yourself that this is a real movie by the real director, and not rather a brilliant parody of one of his weaker efforts. You look at the black-and-white Manhattan views, and wait with gritted teeth for the Gershwin clarinet glissando.

It's partly that it goes over an incredible amount of old ground, as someone as prolific as Allen inevitably does. But what elevates it from mere self-repetition into the hideous skin-crawling nightmare you can't wait to end is the performance, in the lead, of our own Kenneth Branagh. It is one of the most bizarre things you will see all year, the lipless Irishman, trying, with altogether commendable energy, to do not just a New York accent, but the most perfect impersonation of Woody Allen himself. As a friend said, "Do you know, if you shut your eyes, you would absolutely swear that was Rory Bremner."

What's going wrong with the cinema? I mean, the vogue for sequels is pretty terrible, the craze for adaptations of famous books or comic strips is even worse, and the craze for remaking movies which are perfectly good is an utter scandal

If these borrible reconstructions set a trend, if directors start revisiting the scenes of their greatest triumphs, then let us admit that we don't like the cinema any more, that this generation doesn't have any talent, and that we'll have to wait for someone to come along who has some ideas, and not just a knack of appropriating someone else's.

Why am I hounded by Britain simply for telling the truth?

THREE WEEKS ago I was released by a French court after the British government bad demanded my extradition on grounds of breaching the Official Secrets Act. It decided that my criticism of the British intelligence services was a political act. a verdict which clearly embarrassed the UK authorities.

After I had become able to discuss my position with my partner, my lawyer and my family, I decided to offer the Government an olive branch, Although the French court had effectively given me license to make new disclosures, without the fear of extradition, I told the Government that I did not want to go down this path. Given the embarrassment to the

Government and MI6, and the fact that it would make more sense to pected they would seize this opportunity to enter into an agreement which would allow me to return to the UK without fear of prosecution.

The Government wrote to my lawyers earlier this month curtly stating that it would not enter into a dialogue. This position was confirmed by government lawyers last week .I suppose I should have expected such a naive and smallminded reaction from the authorities as this has been the hallmark of their behaviour since I first went on the record in August 1997. Rather than deal with my legiti-

mate disclosures, the authorities have accused me of being a a rebellious "loose-cannon", selling secrets for money, and of being a traitor. First, let me say that I was moti-

vated by conscience to expose wrong-doings in the services. It would have been easy for me to simply accept this malpractice and continue to do the job that I bad after leaving MI5.



DAVID Shayler

I'd have broken the Official Secrets Act if I'd told the Home Secretary MI5's carpets were grey

into print with various disclosures. would seek to imprison me. In view of this, I took £20,000 expenses so I could leave Britain and live abroad while the government responded.

I am in no doubt, given the authorities' keenness to have me thrown in jail in France, that they would have had no compunction whatsoever about holding me in HMP Belmarsh for up to 12 months on remand before any trial, had I stayed in Britain. I also agreed to return this money as part of the negotiations with the government earlier this year.

Second, I'm not a traitor A traitor is someone who gives secrets to an enemy power, usually in a covert relationship. I have never disclosed the names of agents or operatives and have always deliberately kept my disclosures vague so their identities are not compromised.

Third, every bit of information I have disclosed has had a very strong public interest reason for its disclosure. I have, for example, pointed out that Jack Straw, the current

Home Secretary and arguably the least militant Labour politician of his generation, has an MI5 file for being a "communist sympathiser".

I have also disclosed that MI6 paid money to an Islamic extremist group to assassinate Colonel Gaddafi, an attack which went wrong, killing Libyan civilians. I have also described bow an MI5

officer received an intelligence report warning of an attack on the Israeli Embassy hut failed to respond to it before the actual attack in July 1994. The report subsequently turned up in another officer's cuoboard, in an apparent attempt to cover up the oversight. As a result of my disclosure, it now appears that MI5 failed to disclose their intelligence report to the defence during the trial of those charged, and sub-

Yes, Ladmit I have broken Britain's draconian 1989 Official Secrets Act but I would even have broken the law if I had told the Home Secretary that the carpets in the MI5 building were grey. Of course, if I had made my disclosures before 1989, I would probably not have been prosecuted as I would have cited the public interest defence that existed then.

Many people were anxious when this defence was removed from the Act by the then Conservative government. In fact, Tony Blair, Jack Straw and John Morris, the current Attorney General, all voted against removing the public interest defence as it would deter political whistleblowers. So why have they changed their stance now they are in government?

It cannot be because there is proper overseeing of the agencies. Ministers rely on the beads of the agencies to assess their organisation's activities and performance. The Parliamentary Intelligence and Security Committee have no right to



MI5 headquarters in London

call witnesses and demand papers, em democracies.

When I made my disclosures, I thought the Intelligence and Security Committee as part of its role would take my evidence and hold the agencies to account. Despite my offers the committee has refused to listen to me, let alone objectively assess my evidence.

The UK had recently (and belatedly) begun the process of incorporating the European Convention on Human Rights into domestic law. Although the convention makes provision for the state to curtail freedom of expression to protect national security, it excepts a degree of "proportionality". As a hlanket ban on freedom of expression, the Official Secrets Act will have to be reformed.

So I now find myself obliged to live abroad for breaking a law that is to be reformed. Although I have been released from La Sante prison, I am now effectively imprisoned in France. If I leave, I risk the British Government applying for my extradition again from another country.

When I was arrested on 1 August gotiating with the Government so that I could return to the UK without being imprisoned. At the time, the Attorney General seemed prepared to agree that it would not be in the public interest to prosecute me (but would not write this down). The report for my extradition was clearly an attempt to silence me as it incided with my efforts to make are public aware of the MI6-funded plot to assassinate Colonel Gaddafi.

As things stand, I cannot help feeling that I'm being left in political exile because I have told the truth, and in doing so have embarrassed the intelligence services.

If my experience has taught me anything, it is that the obsessive secrecy of the British state allows the intelligence services to exert an unhealthy influence over a democratically elected government. How else can we explain the reaction to my situation of a Labour government elected on a platform of in ... formation and commitment to basic

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A new declaration of human rights may fall on us. Why not raise treasuries. Benefits are cut,

EXACTLY 50 years ago, on 10 December 1948, the United Nations General Assembly voted in favour of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Most of the Articles agreed

in 1948 bear the stamp of the borrendous experience of the Second World War, where personal rights were systematically infringed: but they also carry the imprint of the economic adversities leading up to that war, when mass unemployment reduced whole populations to misery, and denied hope to an entire generation. Thus there arose, in many countries at the same time, powerful movements for guaranteed social security, full employment and minimum economic rights.

These movements were sufficiently influential to mark the thinking of those who drafted the Universal Declaration. They were not, however, sufficient to secure its implementation. When be was asked what be thought of Western civilisation, Mahatma Gandhi replied: "It would be a

Human rights, as established in the American Con-

stitution and in the French Declaration of the Rights of Man, included the right to bold property. The rights which such ownership carry are still subject to continual modification. Planning laws, for instance, have greatly restricted the power to "do as we will with our own". Taxation can in principle erode or even annul such rights.

But the fundamental objection of socialists to this "right" remains: the concentration of property deprives non-property-owners of the "right" to hold property. A long history of dispossession marks the formation of all modern societies. Numerous expedients have been devised from time to time with the intention of opening up the question of ownership, and widening property rights. But,

globally, these have failed. The 225 richest people in the world have a combined wealth of more than a trillion dollars. which is equal to the annual income of the poorest 47 per cent of the world's people. (That is to say, 2.5 billion individuals). Fifteen billionaires have assets greater than the total national income of Africa south of the



PODIUM

KEN COATES From a speech by the Independent Labour MEP to

the New European Left Forum in Athens

The United Nations Development Programme estimates that the cost of maintaining universal basic education, health care, reproductive health care for women, and adequate food and safe water, would be \$40bn a year, or less than 4 per cent of the combined value of the holdings of the 225 richest people. We can be sure of one thing: this polarisation will continue, come hell or high water, come whatever crisis a 40 per cent tax on precisely these 225 people, and simply meet the outstanding needs identified by the UN? In our present polity, the right to prop-erty for some has suffocated all the other rights of many. Let us look at what the Uni-

versal Declaration was willing to tell us long ago in 1948 about the right to work, in Article 23: "Everyooe has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment".

It is noticeable that the Declaration speaks of "the right to work, not "full employment" which is the chosen name for this desired state in such contemporary publications as the preamble of the Treaty establishing the World Trade Organisation, "Full employment" defines a situation in which everyone is employed, and assumes a particular economic relationship as fundamental

to the provision of work The unemployed have few rights, and these are being eroded daily, as the cost of subsistence for unemployed people bears in on national

and unemployed people are forced into ever deeper misery. It is a depressing fact that

we need to face, that unrivalled possibilibes of technical progress are, in our world, combined with growing distress and the rejection of increasing masses of people, who try to subsist in poverty and unemployment. This record gives us little to celebrate on the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration, even though this document does us a service in that it reflects the bopes of our parents and allows us to measure the distance by which we fall behind those hopes.

A new declaration would have to insist that the real state of human rights may be understood by examining the extent of poverty and unemployment, as well as the numbers of political prisoners. The right to life itself is in jeopardy for many millions in the grip of poverty. And their right to a fulfilling social existence scarcely exists for the unemployed and those who are excluded in the

miscalled "advanced"

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Making up for lost time



DEJEVSKY

Bill Clinton will emerge from the Monica affair with an even greater sense of purpose

THE FIRST time I looked in his eyes, I saw something I didn't expect to see." So said Monica Lewinsky of the prelude to her first "inappropriate" encounter with the President of the United States. Well. I too have looked into Mr Clinton's eyes, in so far as police cordons and television screens permit, and I too have seen something unexpected. After almost a year of poorly hisguised stress, the over-apologetic echer is ready to make a comeback as President, just as soon as the inconvenience of the impeachment process is over.

And the impeachment process will be over The only question is when. However fiercely the Republicans in Congress huff and puff. they do not have the two-thirds majority in the Senate that they need to remove the President, and they cannot expect help either from Democrats or from public opinion. They could end the charade now by accepting that a Senate trial would be futile, and settle for a censure vote in the full House of Representatives next week. They could force on impeachment vote in the House, isread the mood, and lose - so letting Mr Clinton off scot-free. Or they could win that vote and force a Senate trial, which would extend the agony for a few weeks and months. but have the same result.

An act of God apart, all that can now prevent Bill Clinton from completing his term is a decision on his part to do the decent thing and resign - which seems as remote a prospect now as it ever was.

For until the temporary setback of the past week, when the leaderess Republican majority on the use judiciary committee decided a go for broke and push the impeachment process as far as it could go, Mr Clinton was clawing his way back. The unaccustomed hesitancy in his voice had gone; the washed-out haggardness of his visage was diminishing. Coming through once again were the steely determination and sense of mission that had brought him, in four-anda-half decades, from the little town of Hope in the hackwoods of in good times and in bad, Bill

Clinton's demeanour tells much more, perhaps, than is good for a



Bill Clinton will be back - older and thinner, but also more driven than he was at the start of his presidency

politician, still less a world leader. One reason perhaps why other statesmen find him so engaging and women - with the exception of Paula Jones - find his charm so devastating, is that he still conducts himself so often like a small boy. His response on being caught by the evidence of Monica's hive dress was that of a male child caught doing what he should not have done.

"I could not tell a lie" may have been the guilty admission of George Washington, the ethical standard on which the United States likes to think it was built, but those days are past, if indeed they ever existed. In common with a good many of his predecessors, Bill Clinton could lie and did. He will bluff and bluster to save his skin. But once caught, he looks caught.

For the best part of this year, between the time that he was first

rumhled by the US media in January to the time that he admitted he had been found out (August) and discovered the political capital to be made of contrition (September, October and Novembers, Bill Clinton was never quite his old confident self. Last year's State of the Union message to Congress - just six days after the Monica revelations - was visibly a struggle, and he fluffed hts lines.

> Thereafter, he took on a haggard. somewhat haunted look. The fasttalking bluster was less evident; the lustrous confidence had faded. Caught off-guard, he could looked stooped, even cowed.

This week, as the depth and duration of his shame are being determined, something of that look bas returned. But Bill Clinton will be back. He will be older and thinner than he was at the start of the year, wiser and more reflective. But he will also be even more determined and driven than he was at the start of his presidency. He has a legacy to bequeath, and that legacy must include something lasting that trumps the scandat, something that links his name for ever with something more than his dalliance with Monica Lewinsky.

There was a glimpse of the post-Monica Bill Clinton this autumn, in the week of the Middle East peace talks at Wye Plantation, when he persisted in arguing and cajoling far longer than most negotiators would have allowed, far longer than a world leader could usually afford. Afterwards, he offered a hint of his rationale: he saw the hardships and the sleepless nights as a physical and intellectual penance of a kind for his misdeeds, and he saw his success - however tenuous and

short-lived it turned out to he - as approval of a kind, from God.

It is possible to think of his trip to the Middle East this weekend -Jerusalem at Hanukkah, the first address by an American President to the Palestinian assembly - as another test. Far from deterring him, the violence in the region that has erupted in advance of his visit is a hardship sent by God. He is deliberately putting himself in harm's way: challenging God to pre-

serve him for the work ahead. In a country where material things count for so much, it is easy for an outsider to be cynical about the religious aspect of American life and about Americans' churchgoing, especially the church-going of politicians. But Bill Clinton's Southern fundamentalist roots run deep. He speaks the language of that church. He thinks in its terms.

and - while his prayer breakfast contrition was as staged as any of his apologics - his recruitment of clergy as counsellors and his reference in his first televised confession to his affair as "between me, the two people I love most, my wife and

daughter, and our God" were not.

Far from reconciling himself to being a lame-duck President, Bill Clinton will emerge from the Monica affair with a greater sense of purpose than before. He will be a man in a hurry to make up for lost time, a man saved by God for great deeds, a man with a mission for his country and the world even more urgent than before. Whether he turns his zeal to a domestic agenda - a return, for instance, to his health programme or to race relations - or to the international arena, Bill Clinton will be back, a man - and a

leader - to be reckoned with.

RIGHT OF REPLY

PRUE LEITH



The Vice President of the Royal Society of Arts defends their plans for Trafalgar Square

YOUR LEADING article ("Populism on the plinth") implies that the RSA is somehow ignoring the people's wish by proposing a temporary display of contemporary works on the empty plinth in Trafalgar Square. For 150 years nothing appeared there because no one could agree. Originally the plinth was to have been occupied by an equestrian statue of William IV, but he failed to leave funds to pay for the work. And so the plinth has remained empty, hecause no proposition has yet managed to achieve general approval.

We consulted widely for three years and the suggestions from the public included ideas for both contemporary and traditional exhibitions; for "heroes" as diverse as Pooh Bear and Nelson Mandela, and for themes such as Peace and Democracy, But "the public" does not speak with one voice. So we tested the various ideas with interested bodies, possible funders and with a feasibility study.

We have been working with advisers from Sculpture at Goodwood, the Tate Gallery, ArtAngel and the Public Monuments and Sculpture Association. To get the debate going about the long-term solution, we intend to bold a temporary exhibition of contemporary sculpture.

Seventeen British artists were invited to submit ideas. out of which three were chosen by the commissioning panel, who, if planning permission is granted, will provide interest, excitement and pleasure to Londoners and tourists in Trafalgar Square.

Other cities are much braver about showing off their best artists - Paris had an exhibition down the Champs-Elysées of about 50 sculptures from Rodin to Lynn Chadwick, and New York has Flanagan's Hares all down Park Avenue. Let's, for once, take a risk, if only a temporary one.

It ain't necessarily so

historical cases of women who crossssed as men coincided with the Billy Tipton. I was often asked to comment on how Tipton "got away with" duping fellow musicians, his four wives and the boys who knew him as Dad, into believing "she" was a he. I was equally astonished, since I had assumed that gender reassignment had ended a centuries-old phenomenon. Like the women whose lives I stud-

ied, Billy Tipton left no definitive record of his experiences nor an explanation of his behaviour. Despite this, biographer Diane Middlebrook West has written a wonderfully detailed, lively and deeply sympathetic portrait. She argues that Tipton's identity simply swung between the poles of masculine and feminine.

A decade after his death, that is a concept more easily understood - especially in America, where a transgender move-



FRIDAY BOOK SUITS ME: THE DOUBLE LIFE

OF BILLY TIPTON BY DIANE WOOD MIDDLEBROOK, VIRAGO, £20

feel they exist somewhere along the continuum of gender identities. As the clean divide between the sexes becomes blurred, stories such as Tipton's become more understandable.

Billy was born Dorothy in Oklahoma City on 29 December 1914, the eldest child of Reggie and G W Tipton, a young couple "who got married in a fever". Dorothy's introduction to show business came early as she watched her father, a stunt man, walk along the wing of an airplane. There were other lessons about performance, too. A photo of

ment has flourished among those who Dorothy at three shows a chubby girl, carefully composed in a lace dress and cap, with ankles neatly crossed.

But neither her budding femininity nor the family's prosperity were to last. In 1927, the fever had run its course and the Tiptons divorced, with Reggie taking custody of the children. During the 1930s Reggie, unable to support Dorothy and her brother Billy, sent them to live with their Aunt Bess in Kansas City.

Despite straitened circumstances, Aunt Bess encouraged Dorothy's ambition to become a professional musician. There is another illuminating photograph of Dorothy, aged 15, ill at ease now in a ruffled dress, sporting a garland on her ham-sized wrist. Her obvious discomfort speaks volumes of ber decision to leave the middle-class security of Aunt Bess's home and head stripper Kitty Kelly, all lasted seven back to Oklahoma City where, by 1935. she had become Billy.

Without the luxury of a memoir or letters to explain the leap over the gender divide, Middlebrook falls back on speculation. This is a biographer's prerogative and, in Tipton's case, the author teases out a convincing scenario of a musician driven as much by a desire to escape from poverty as a compulsion to express a masculine identity.

Billy gradually shed his female identity with the help of a girlfriend, Non Earl, who herself caused a sensation in Oklahoma City by wearing trousers. With brilliantined hair and obvious talent. Billy began landing jobs, first at a local club and later in a series of swing bands. As Tipton's cousin Eilene recalled, "she was talented and good-look- mate to him. ing and had a great personality and once



the ball started rolling, I don't think there was any turning back for her." But Billy's security was always wafer-thin, and this cheated him of success. At the height of his career in the 1950s, with the release of his second album and offers of lucrative contracts in Las Vegas, he opted to become an agent in Spokane. Fame would have made him vulner-

able to exposure. Even with his four "wives", Billy felt unable to divulge his secret. Middlehrook points out that his marriages, except the last to former years, and may have frayed under the strain. But, astonishingly, with Kitty he had the confidence to raise a family of three adopted sons and one foster son, who knew him only as Dad. Just as Billy had constructed an identity that suited him/her, he built a family and, for several years, settled into suburban hliss.

But the effects of living on the margins of society without a social insurance number, medical benefits or a pension caught up with Billy in old age. His performance had taken over long ago and, as Tipton once told a fledgling musician, "You've got to live the part, you've got to wear it." He spent his life strutting and fretting upon the stage and then paid the ultimate price for his inability to share it - even with those most inti-

JULIE WHEELWRIGHT



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FRIDAY POEM

PIED BEAUTY

BY GERARD MANLEY HOPKINS

For rose-moles all in stipple upon trout that swim:

Landscape plotted and pieced - fold, fallow, and plough:

And all trades, their gear and tackle and trim.

For skies of couple-colour as a brinded cow;

Fresh-firecoal coestnut-falls; finches' wings;

Glory be to God for dappled things - .

Our poems this week come from 'Field Days', edited by Angelo King ond Sue Clifford for Common Ground. It costs £10 (inclusive) from Common Ground, PO Box 25309, London NW5 1ZA

Archie Moore

ARCHIE MOORE fought as he lived. with method, determination and skill, but at his own pace, as if he had his own time-frame, as if fights were not confined to the then championship distance of 15 rounds and life itself had no specific beginning and end. "I geared my way of living and my boxing style to last," he said.

His philosophy was probably in-huilt. He didn't know exactly when he was born, hut grumbled for years that people wrote that he was older than he said. When he once insisted, "Take my word for it. I was born on 13 December 1916," he was contradicted by the one person who knew best, his mother Lorena. She said Archie was three years out - it was 1913 – but even she seemed sketchy.

The result was that nobody could really be sure about when he was born, just as nobody knows how many fights he had. Researchers are still scouring old newspapers and finding "extra" fights for him back when nobody bothered too much about keeping records. The latest estimate is 229 between 1935 and 1963.

He had an elder sister, Rachel, born when his mother was around 15, hut his parents separated when Archie was an infant and he was raised by an uncle and aunt, Cleveland and Willie Pearl Moore, in St Louis. He took on their name. Cleveland Moore, a solid, dependable labouring man, was his inspiration, although he remembered being sent on summer holidays to his grandparents in Mississippi: "In the summer the fish were jumping and the sweet, fresh smell of melons on the vine was in the air. We had chickens, corn and white fresh hutter. When company came a hog was killed . . . there was a swimming hole and long hours spent wading in the creek." When his uncle died, the teenage

Archie took to stealing in order to huy a trumpet, was caught and sentenced to three years in reform school. He was released after 22 months, and put his life in order.

In the 1930s black fighters earned pin money were exploited, avoided, robbed of decisions, in effect mercilessly suppressed. They knew this, and most went nowhere. Moore stuck at it, even when it must have seemed plain to everyone else that he belonged to the "too good for his own good" club. Years of fighting where he could for whatever pay he could hustle somehow hardened rather than deadened his spirit.

He moved to San Diego in the late 1930s, spent 1940 fighting in Australia middleweight title in 1943, and slow-receive a title fight. ly grew into a light-heavyweight. Out of the ring, he ran a fried chicken

husiness. He fought the great boxers of his weight and time, many of whom were similarly condemned to the wastelands by a corrupt system unduly influenced by gangsters of one description or another. The extent of Mob influence is still not fully understood, but one middleweight champion of the time, Rocky Graziano, was banned by

Moore (left) in the third round of the light-heavyweight championship of 1952, against Joey Maxim. Moore won in the 15th the New York State commission for failing to report a bribe attempt, and another, Jake La Motta, admitted at eral along the way - would cream won and lost the California State had been forced to pay in order to

> Most black fighters were of little interest to those intent on controlling the scene in the 1940s and, even when more opportunities did arise in the 1950s, it is likely that their careers were manipulated according to the gambling whims of shadowy figures in the background.

Moore and world-class black fighters like Charlie Burley, Holman Williams, Lloyd Marshall and Jimmy Bivins simply had to wait. "I was fighting for peanuts." Moore said.

purse, his manager - there were sevtling with his pool cue than boxing.

His turn finally arrived in 1952 when he was a veteran of, at a conservative estimate, 170 contests. He had enlisted the help of leading writers to campaign on his behalf. The world light-heavyweight champinn, Joey Maxim, was an Italian-American whose real name was Giuseppe Antonio Berardinelli. Maxim's manager, Jack "Doc" Kearns, who had managed the great 1920s heavyweight Jack Dempsey. insisted on Maxim's being paid

Even when he had a good gross \$100,000 in return for allowing the fight to go ahead in St Louis. Moore took what was left, which turned In spite of a perforated ulcer, a scuate investigation in 1961 that he most of it off in expenses. At one out to be \$800. By the time be had time, he said he earned more by hus- paid off his sparring partners and other pre-fight expenses, there was nothing left.

Nevertheless, he won the world light-heavyweight title at the age of 39. After the decision, he walked over to Maxim, but was brushed aside by Kearns. "Never mind the condolences, kid." said the old man. We've got all the money." More than that, Kearns had threatened to pull Maxim out of the fight unless Moore cut him in as his co-manager. Moore had signed - and then discovered Kearns had also negotiated a re-

match clause. As a result, Moore had to beat Maxim twice more. Kearns earned a fortune.

In between defending the lightheavyweight title he boxed as a heavyweight, with a hungry eye on the great world champion, Rocky Marciano. In 1953 Moore beat the dangerous Cuban Nino Valdes. in 1954 stopped another leading hig man, Boh Baker, and in 1955 beat Valdes again.

He hounded Marciano into fighting him with a systematic campalgn of advertising, issuing "Wanted" posters to the New York writers and eventually embarrassing the champion into giving him

Their fight at Yankee Stadium, New York, in September 1955 was hitterly controversial. In the second

round Moore floored Marciano with a perfect right uppercut. The champion's nose was bleeding and his eye was bruised as he hauled himself up at the count of four

He was ready for the taking, but Harry Kessler who was known as "The Millionaire Referee", gave Marciano precious extra seconds to recover dusting him down and generally hesitating before allowing Moore to go back in. The chance was lost. Marciano recovered his senses, survived and eventually knocked Moore out in round nine. It was one round too many. After eight, he was December 1998.

effectively finished, but he refused to accept the doctor's suggestion that he quit. "I'm happy it ended the way it did," he told reporters. "I wouldn't want to lose sitting in a corner"

It's easy now to forget just how big fights like this were. The paying attendance was 61,574, and the gross receipts including radio and television rights were more than \$2m. Later that night "Ancient Archie" (another nickname, earned in his younger days, was "The Mongoose") with one eye shut behind a huge purple shiner, took himself out on the town and played his beloved string bass with a jazz band. In old age he would still remind anybody who would listen that Kessler robbed him of the heavyweight championship.

He had another chance when Marciano retired in 1956 and they matched him with 21-year-old Floyd Patterson for the vacant title in Chicago. Patterson knocked him out in the fifth.

In spite of increasing hulk, Moore continued to make the lightheavyweight limit (175lb) when he had to, spinning a line that he used a diet given to him by Australian aborigines. At restaurants he would order rare steaks, chew the blood from them and spit the meat back on to his plate. At one time the authorities threatened to take away his title: with a typical flourish, he appealed to the United Nations. He was almost knocked out by a Canadian, Yvon Durelle, who floored him three times in the first round in Monireal in 1958, hut recovered and won in the 11th.

Eventually he was stripped of his championships in 1962 because he ignored the demands of the governing bodies. By then he was 48. In May 1962 he was good enough to draw with Willie Pastrano, a future . champion, although the young Cassius Clay knocked him out in four rounds. Archie Moore's last official fight was in Phoenix, Arizona, in 1963. He won hy a knockout.

He trained fighters - famously falling out with Cassius Clay when Clay discovered that in Moore's training camp even he had to carry out household chores - and once acted in a movie. The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn (1960). "I didn't have time to read when I was a kid. Now that I've found books, I'm really living," he said. For a time he trained the world heavyweight champion George Foreman and coached the Nigerian amateur team in the 1976 Olympics.

He remained in good health into sprightly, well loved, old age, but eventually needed a triple heart bypass in 1995 and was frail for some time before his death.

Archibald Lee Wright (Archie Moore), boxer: born Benoit, Mississippi 13 December 1917 m World light-heavyweight boxing champion 1952-62; married five times (four sons, three daughters): died Snn Diego, Cnlifornin 9

Valentin Berezhkov

VALENTIN BEREZHKOV was a Russian diplomat who translated for Joseph Stalin and other Soviet officials during crucial Second World War conferences. Once freed from the constraints of Soviet historiography, he earned a good living recounting his experiences of the man he considered a great leader.

During his translating career, Berezhkov, to his continuing wonderment, met the entire Soviet leadership - and other world leaders as well, including Adolf Hitler, Franklin Roosevelt, Harry Truman, Winston Churchill and Clement Attlee.

He first met Hitler in his office in the Chancellery in Berlin while on a mission in November 1940 with the Soviet Foreign Minister Vyacheslav Molotov. Despite heing complimented by Hitler on his Berlin accent, Berezhkov was uneasy. "His handshake was cold and moist to the touch, which evoked an unpleasant feeling," he recalled, "like touching a reptile." The following month Berezhkov was appointed the first secretary of the Soviet embassy in Berlin, translating for officials in their meetings with Nazi leaders. At three o'clock on the morning

of 22 June 1941 - the day Nazi Germany attacked the Soviet Union -Berezhkov was summoned to a meeting where the German foreign minister Joachim von Ribbentrop read out the declaration of war. "His face was swollen and purple," Berezhkov recalted. "He had obviously been drinking heavily."

Berezhkov and his colleagues immediately set about hurning the embassy's secret documents, which they managed just before the SS broke in. They remained trapped in the embassy until an exchange of diplomatic personnel between the enemy states could be arranged.

Back in Moscow he became an as-



What was Stalin like?

fairs. He was a personal translator for Stalin during conferences with Roosevelt and Churchill at Tehran in 1943 and Yalta in 1945, and at the Potsdam Conference with Truman and Churchill later the same year.

Berezhkov was born in 1916 in Petrograd, then about to be engulfed in revolution. During the civil war he was taken south to Ukraine and survived the mass famine Stalin created in the 1930s. His father like so many - was arrested, whispering in young Valentin's ear "Remember, I am guilty of nothing . . . " before being carted off by the GPU (the secret police). Unlike so many

others, he was released as innocent. Berezhkov graduated in engineering from Kiev Industrial Institute in 1938, before heginning work in the Arsenal plant. He was soon called up for military service and despatched to Vladivostok to serve in the Soviet Pacific Fleet. There he was plucked out to become a translator, thanks to his knowledge of English and German he had been

In the spring and summer of 1940 he worked at the Soviet Trade Mission in Berlin, travelling through

other Nazi-occupied countries.

He returned to Moscow, hut was soon in demand as the Soviet embassy in Berlin desperately needed linguists for work discussing the terms of the Nazi-Soviet pact. signed the previous year. Molotov took him on as a translator - despite his protestations that he had had no formal training - and his new career began. He was fitted out in a dark suit, a grey overcoat and a trilby hat and despatched to the Berlin embassy clutching his diplomatic passport.

After the war, he became a journalist and later deputy chief editor of New Times, a foreign affairs weekly. In the 1970s, he was appointed to the diplomatic service and served in Washington. He was first secretary at the Soviet Embassy in 1983 when his 16-year-old son, Andrei, announced in letters to President Ronald Reagan and The New York Times that he wanted to defect to the US. This sistant to Molotov on American af- encouraged to learn by his parents. sparked a diplomatic confrontation be-

tween the US and the Soviet Union that resolved itself only when the leen Pickard Smith worked in her youth renounced his wish to defect | garden every day. It was full of rare and returned to Moscow with his and unusual plants, often British parents. (In 1994 Andrei was shot natives that even experienced

dead by an associate in Moscow.) Berezhkov also served in the US as Washington representative of the about the making of the garden United States and Canada Institute, the prestigious Soviet research | "Harveys", in Glynde, East Sussex, centre on North American affairs. He was widely known on the diplomatic scene and often served as a tour to the US. For a time, he was editorin-chief of USA magazine.

In the 1970s and 1980s he published memoirs of his time as Stalm's translator In keeping with Soviet orthodoxy, he glossed over delicate subjects like the secret protocols of States, eastern Poland, and Bessarathe Nazi and Soviet regimes as a tactical necessity to foil the plots of the reactionary Western powers.

After the Soviet Union collapsed, Berezhkov retained a fondness for Stalin, but realised he could be far franker about the details Russians and foreigners were dying to hear. What was Stalin like? He was happy to oblige with anecdotes that showed the good side of his former boss.

In 1991, Berezhkov moved to Claremont in California to teach and lecture on Russian-American affairs. He appeared in many documentaries recounting his impressions of Stalin and published a fuller version of his memoirs, At Stalin's Side, in 1994. FELIX CORLEY

Valentin Mikhailovich Berezhkov, diplomnt and translator; born Petrograd 2 July 1916; twice married (two sons and one son deceased); died Claremont, California 20

Kathleen Pickard Smith

gardeners could not recognise.

In the 1950s she wrote a book around the 15th-century cottage. where she lived for nearly all her life, hut it was never published, "pipped at the post", she said, hy Margery guide for infinential Soviet visitors | Fish. Although this book was not published, her book called Living with Reptiles was, in 1961.

Her house and garden had become increasingly the home of lizards, terrapins and tortoises. It was common for new visitors to be surprised by the sudden appearance the Nazi-Soviet pact (allowing for the of an iguana running up the curtains Soviet annexation of the Baltic or to assume that "Iggy", who spent much time of the top of the piano, bia). He portrayed the closeness of was stuffed, until he turned his head to look at them.

One friend once discovered Pickard Smith in the ladies' washroom at the Royal Horticultural Society Halls in Vincent Square on show day standing over a basin full



Worms on the carpet

about happily. She took them out. dried them and put them back one by one inside her hra, and went back to the show to look at the plants. They had not long been hatched, she said, and she could not leave them

behind all day. She was born Kathleen Pickard. on Lady Day 1902. Her father, Tom Pickard, was the agent for the Glynde Estate in Sussex and she was born and lived for several years at what was then the home farm. Later the family moved to Harveys, on the other side of the road. Kathleen became interested in plants at a very early age and spent much time looking for wild flowers in Sussex and all over Britain with members of the Wild Flower Society. Her initials can he found scattered thickly through The Flora of Sussex (1937),

edited by A.H. Wolley-Dod. Many of her articles on the wild flowers of Sussex appeared in the Sussex County Magazine. Her interest in garden plants and particularly in alpines followed. She was a member of the Alpine Garden Society from 1933 and was well-known for her ability to name plants, which stemmed, she always said, from that early grounding in botany. Among her friends were many famous earlier gardeners like Claridge Druce, A.T. Johnson and Will Ingwersen.

Kathleen Pickard was also an LRAM and between the wars went on to run the Brighton School of Music where she had originally studied. Her brother Cuthbert had, after surviving service in the Army during the First World War, died in the influenza epidemic that followed it. She was therefore the only surviving child of a very autocratic father - well-known for terrifying the villagers of Glynde - and it seemed as if her life was set, divid- East Susser 23 November 1998.

UNTIL HER very last years, Kath- of baby terrapins all swimming ed between music, plants and animals and remaining in the family home with her parents.

During the Second World War, however, Canadian troops were billeted in and around Lewes. Kathleen Pickard met Frank Smith, one of the Canadian officers. One of her dogs was reputed to have bitten his ankle and effected an introduction. At the age of 43 she married him, much to the annoyance of her father, who commented, "If I had known you wanted to get married I would have fixed you up before."

In her unpublished book on the garden at Harveys, Frank comes across as a much more useful husband than Margery Fish's husband Walter, being always willing to provide useful muscle for any of Kathleen's garden schemes. They remained happily married until Frank's death over 25 years ago.

Later, when Kathleen Pickard Smith was already confined to one room and all her reptiles had either died or been found other homes, her dogs and a pair of robins remained with her. She would open a little tin box and scatter a handful of meal worms over the carpet. The robins would fly into the kitchen, through the hall and round the corner into her room and peck them up. Unfortunately they usually left a few behind to writhe on the carpet, much to the dismay of her carers.

She grew more eccentric and did not mellow with the years. Those of us who loved her continued to do so and she was always a lively topic of conversation among her

BARBARA ABBS

Kathleen Pickard, gardener and writer: born Glynde, Sussex 25 March 1902; married 1945 Frank Smith (deceased); died Brighton,

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Peg Leg Bates

CLAYTON "PEG LEG" Bates was a oneelegged tap dancer who became an unlikely but highly popular star of vaudeville shows and night-clubs, stage musicals, and film and television productions in a career that stretched from the 1920s to the late 1980s. He mastered an extraordinary variety of styles and flourishes, reinventing everything for a leg whose half-rubber, half-leather tip gave his tapping a distinctive sound.

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At the beight of his career, in the 1930s, Bates topped all other two-legged tap dancers. He danced for King George V and Queen Mary in a Royal Command Performance; he danced with the bands of Jimmy Dorsey, Duke Ellington, Cab Calloway, Count Basie, Erskine Hawkins, Louis Armstrong and Billy Eckstine; and he gained a reputation as an irrepressible performer acclaimed as much by his fellow dancers as by his audiences. "Well, I'm into rhythm and I'm into novelty," he once said. "I'm into doing things that it looks almost impossible to do."

Born in Fountain Hill, South Carolina, in 1906, Bates started tap-dancing for pennies at the age of five, but his venture seemed doomed when, seven years later, he lost his leg in an accident at the cotton gin mill where he worked.

"After losing the leg, for some unknown reason, I still wanted to dance," he told Rusty E. Frank for her 1990 book Tap! "At first, I was walking around on crutches, and I started making musical rhythm with them." When an uncle fashioned him a wooden leg he began dancing again. "See, I did not realise the importance of losing a leg," he recalled. "I thought it was just like stubbing my toe and knocking off a toenail that was going to grow back."

Within three years of his accident. Bates had begun to enter amateur shows, and often won first prize. During segregation, be performed in minstrel shows and carnivals, and later joined a circuit that took hlack performers to black theatres across the United States. At one of the stops, the Lafayette Theater in Harlem, Bates was spotted by Lew Leslie, the producer of he "Blackbirds" musical theatre revues. Leslie signed him to perform on Broadway in Blackbirds of 1928 and Bates went on to travel to Paris with the revue in 1929. After the show closed, be performed on the vaudeville circuit, appearing to top New York theatres like the Paramount, the Roxy and the Capitot, and Harlem clubs like the Cotton Club and Club Zanzibar.

In 1938, Bates played the Tivoli circuit in Australia, the only black performer to do so. Around the same time, he met Ed Sullivan, then a newspaper columnist, and danced as the opening act for the touring Ed Sullivan Revue. hen Sullivan went on to become the most important television presenter of Bates. He was invited to perform on The



Bates kept 13 spare legs in his dressing-room, one to match each of his suits

Ed Sullivan Show 21 times, more than any other tap dancer.

In the 1960s, Bates opened a resort, the Peg Leg Bates Country Club, in the Catskills, New York. The resort catered to a black clientele, a novelty in an area that was primarily for white. Jewish bolidaymakers. "At first the natives were resentful," Bates said in a 1969 article in The New York Times. "But now everything is kosher beautiful." Following the death of his wife, Alice, in

flicted by missing limbs and throughout the Second World War performed frequently in army and navy hospitals. He would imitate a dive bomber, leaping high into the air and coming down on his wooden leg, and then tell the ap-plauding soldiers and sailors that with that kind of encouragement be would be happy to break his other leg. After all, he would say, he had more legs in his dressing-room. In fact he had 13, one to match each of his suits.

the handicapped, as well as children and the elderly. Indeed, he danced in Fountain Inn the day before his death, at an event staged to raise money for a lifesize sculpture of Bates to be erected in the town's square and to award him the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest honour

EDWARD HELMORE

Clayton "Peg Leg" Baies, tap dancer: born Fountain Inn, South Carolina 11 After his retirement from the stage October 1906: married (one daughter): Bates never forgot those similarly af in 1989, Bates continued to perform for died Fountain Inn 6 December 1998.

AVIATION NOTES

PAUL WILKINSON

Another Lockerbie could happen today

the bombing of PanAm 103 over Lockerbie approaches, media attention has been concentrated on the prospect of the two Lihyan suspects indicted for their alleged role in the bombing being brought to trial in Holland.

But we should not lose sight of another dimension of Lockerbie, an aspect that remains of central importance to all airline passengers, the civil aviation industry, governments, and the international community as a whole. Bearing in mind that the Lockerbie atrocaty could have been prevented if the aviation security measures theoretically in place at the time had been properly implemented. could another Lockerhie happen today?

Although the annual totals of terrorist incidents involving citizens of more than one country have declined since the early 1990s, there has been a worrying trend towards more lethal and indiscriminate attacks, as exemplified by the recent bombings in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam, the suicide bombings in Israel, the massacre of foreign tourists at Luxor, and the carnage of the Omagh bombing.

There bave been other civilian jets destroyed by midair sabotage bombs since Lockerbie, for example the bombing of a UTA airliner over the Niger desert and the destruction of a Panamanian

AS THE 10th anniversary of loss of all on board. There complete a much stronger set have been mid-air bomhings where the pilot succeeded in making an emergency landing, but in which passengers were killed and injured. There have also been at least half a dozen cases where bombs have mercifully been discovered onboard, or

during boarding or loading. Due to weak links in the International Aviation Security System, another Lockerhie could happen today. Despite security improvements in countries such as Britain and Germany, there are still major gaps which terrorists can exploit. One of the lessons the civil

aviation industry and governments should have learnt from the Lockerbie tragedy is never to allow terrorists' tactics and weaponry to outstrip the capacity of our aviation security measures and equipment. At the time of the Lockerbie bombing, aviation security was still mainly configured to deal with combating the hijacker. It is a depressing fact that many airports around the world, especially in Africa and the CIS countries, do not yet deploy adequate expertise, procedures, and equipment able to reliably detect the type of plastic explosive hidden in a radio-cassette recorder used

to destroy PanAm 103. British aviation security comes out very well in comparison with other major aviation countries. It took about commuter plane, with the five years after Lockerbie to

Non-disclosure

caused no prejudice

FRIDAY LAW

of defences against the sabotage bombing: a statutorily backed regulatory agency with powers to inspect and enforce aviation security standards, a comprehensive system of positive passengerbaggage reconciliation, and the introduction of highquality explosive detection

The United States, despite its importance as the leading aviation power and its unenviable status as the most popular target for international terrorist attacks, still lags behind. The recommendations made by the US Commission for Aviation Safety and Security were not made mandatory. The US civil aviation industry has resisted these recommendations on grounds of cost or practicality. US airports have also been slow to acquire the latest generation of explosive detection machines, despite the leading US research role in developing this technology.

The importance of enhancing a country's aviation security to meet new and emerging terrorist challenges cannot, be overemphasised. Effective national aviation security systems are the huilding blocks of better global security for the air traveller.

Paul Wilkinson and Brian Jenkins are the editors of Aviation Terrorism and Security' (Frank Cass.

GAZETTE

BIRTHDAYS

Admiral of the Fleet Sir Edward Ashmore, former Chief of Naval Staff, 79; Miss Anna Carteret, actress, 56, Lord Elliott of Morpeth, former MP and government minister, 78; Sir Robert Fellowes. Private Secretary to the Queen, 57: Mr Jermaine Jackson, rock singer, 44; Dr Betty Kershaw, President, Royal College of Nursing, 53; Mr Andrew Lansley MP, 42; Miss Brenda Lee, rock singer, 54: Mr Cliff Michelmore, television producer and broadcaster, 79; Sir Wilfrid Newton, former chairman, London Regional Transport, 70; Mr David Plowright, deputy chairman of Channel Four, 68; Mr Carlo Ponti, film director and producer, 85; Mr Patrick Reyntiens, designer and artist in stained glass, 73; Mr Alexander Solzhenitsyn, writer, 80; Miss Sarah Spencer, former General Secretary, National Council or Civil Liberties, 46; Miss Sheila Walker, former Chief Commissioner of the Girl Guides, 81; Mr Phil Woolas MP, 39.

ANNIVERSARIES

Births: Pope Leo X, 1475; Carl Friedrich Zelter, conductor and composer, 1758; Sir David Brewster, physicist, and inventor of the kaleidoscope, 1781; Louis-Hector Berlioz, composer,

1803; Louis-Charles Alfred de ed States, 1816; the first Musset, playwright and poet, 1810: Heinrich Hermann Robert Koch, bacteriologist, 1843; Fiorello Henry La Guardia, mayor of New York City, 1882; Victor McLaglen, actor, 1883; Gilbert Roland (Luis Antonio Damaso de Alonso), actor 1905.

Deaths: Llewelyn ab Gruff-

ydd, last native Prince of Wales, killed in battle 1282; Michael VIII Palaeologus, Byzantine emperor, 1282; Louis de Bourbon, Prince of Conde, soldier, 1686; Sir Roger l'Estrange, journalist and translator of Aesop's Fables, 1704; Charles XII, King of Sweden, killed 1718; Edmund Curil, bookseller and scurrilous pamphleteer, 1747; Colley Cibber, playwright and actor, 1757; Jean-François Casimir Delavigne, playwright and poet, 1843; Richard Doyle, artist, 1883; John Loughborough Pearson, architect, 1897; Matthias Hohner, musical instrument maker, 1902; Menelek II, Emperor of Abyssinia (Ethiopia), 1913; Emilie Albertina Olive Schreiner, novelist, 1920; Emile-Charles Marie Wauters, painter, 1933; John William Mackail, scholar, 1945; Sir Douglas James Jardine, soldier and diplomat, 1946; Egbert Roscoe (Ed) Murrow, journalist and broadcaster, 1965.

On this day: James II fled from England, 1688; Indiana became the 19th of the Unit-

motor show opened in the Champs-Elysées, Paris, 1894; the British, led by Lord Methuen, were repulsed by the Boers under Piet Cronje at the Battle of Magersfontein, Orange Free State, 1899; public huildings were burnt in Dublin, the damage being estimated at £3m. 1920: the Statute of Westminster came into effect, 1931; King George VI acceded to the throne, 1936; the Fascist Grand Council in Rome decided to withdraw Italy from membership of the League of Nations, 1937; Germany and Italy declared war on the US, and the US Congress adopted a resolution recognising the state of war, 1941; the new Waterloo Bridge was opened, 1945; the UN refused to admit Spain to the organisation, and recommended that member countries should break diplomatic relations with that country, 1946; the prototype of Concorde was shown for the first time at Toulouse, 1968.

Today is the Feast Day of St Barsabas, St Damasus I, Pope, St Daniel the Stylite and Saints Fuscianus, Victoricus and Gentianus.

LECTURES

National Gallery: Marion Carlisle, "Celebrations (ii): Pieter Bruegel, The Adoration of the Kings", 1pm. Victoria and Albert

Museum: Nancy Osborne, Madeleine Vionnet and Elsa Schiaparelli: cut and construction", 2pm. Tate Gallery: Frances **Hughes and Marston** Bloom, " 'Time Was': John Singer Sargent and Graham Robertson", 1pm. British Moseum: Joyce Filer, "Wildlife in Ancient Egypt", 11.30am. Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, London EC1: Professor Joanna MacGregor and Professor Stephen Pratt, "Jonathan Harvey's Le Tombeau de Messiaen, Leicester University: Mr

Michaelis Attalides, "Cyprus and Accession to the European Union", 4pm.

LUNCHEONS

Canada-UK Chamber of Commerce Dr Michael Ignatieff was the guest of honour and speaker at luncheon of the Canada-United Kindgom Chamber of Commerce held yesterday at the Four Seasons Hotel, London W1. Mr Colin Parsons, President of the Chamber,

RECEPTIONS

British Safety Council Sir Neville Purvis, Director General of the British Safety Council, bosted a reception yesterday at the Watermen's Hall, London EC3, for the

Council's International Diploma in Safety Management and Five Star Health and Safety Management System Audit awards.

DINNERS

Australia and New Zealand Chamber of Commerce UK The Australia and New Zealand Chamber of Commerce UK Charity Christmas Dinner was held yesterday evening at Australia House. London WC2. The Princess Royal. Patron of the Cranfield Trust, was the guest of honour, and was accompanied tw Commodore Timothy Laurence. Among those pre-

the appellant had added to the Mr Graham Swainston, Chairman of the Chember, Mr Philip Flood, High Cou-missioner of Australia: Mr Chris Seed. Deputy High Commissioner of New Zealand: Sir Peter Gadsden, Prezident of the Chamber, Mr John Waugh, Trade Commissioner of New Zealand. grounds of appeal on which leave had been granted a further ground, which alleged that he had been prejudiced by the non-disclosure of the bench memorandum used at the hearing of his application for leave

the court.

to appeal.

respondent.

QC (the Law Society) for the

Lord Woolf MR said that

disclosing bench memoranda

prepared for its use would

prejudice an appellant or a

The court had never inten-

ABSENT FROM "Books of

the Year" was Ann Fadi-

man's delightful Ex Libris,

a sassy volume on and

around such matters as

inscriptions on flyleaves,

the merging of libraries no

would-be appellant.

SYNAGOGUE SERVICES

Details of synagogue services to be held tomorrow may be obtained by telephon ing the following. Sabbath begins in London at 3.36pm. United Synagogues: 0181-343 8989. Pederation of Synagogues: 0181-202 2263. Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues: 0171-580 1663, Reform Synagogues of Great Britain: 0181-349 4731. Spanish and Portuguese Jews Congregation: 0171-289 2573. New London Synagogue (Masorti): 0171-328 1026.

the practice of non-disclosure REPORT of bench memoranda prepared for members of the 11 DECEMBER 1998 Court of Appeal The Court of Appeal allowed Parker v The

in part the appellant's appeal against a decision by the So-Law Society licitors' Disciplinary Tribunal

THERE WAS on danger of

prejndice to appellants by

Court of Appeal that he should be struck off the Roll of Solicitors for conduct (Lord Woolf, Master unbefitting a solicitor. of the Rolls, Lord The appellant's appeal to the Divisional Court failed, and Justice Hutchison and Lord Justice Tuckey) he applied for leave to appeal to the Court of Appeal The 4 December 1998 court granted leave, and after the hearing of the application, the court associate handed

tionally disclosed a bench memorandum for the following back to the appellant bundles reasons. First disclosure would which had been used by the be inconsistent with the relationship thetween judicial ascourt at the hearing. Included with those hundles was the sistants and members of the bench memorandum prepared court, and would inhibit judicial by the judicial assistant to assistants from expressing their opinions. On the hearing of the appeal Secondly, it would result in

unnecessary argument before the court as to whether the memorandum was accurate, or the opinion expressed was correct, when such memoranda were only used by the members of the court as an aide to their preparations; they regularly took a different view from that of the judicial assistants of Stephen Hockman QC and Mark Becard (the Bar Pro Bono Unit) for the facts or as to the outcome the appellant; Timothy Dutton of the appeal.

Thirdly, the court would in any event draw to the attention of the parties any matter which they were proposing to take into account of which the parties there was no danger that the would not already be aware, as present practice by the Court of Appeal, Civil Division, of not they did when their own research revealed information of that character.

> Finally, it would be impractical to provide the parties with details of oral discussions be

tween the judicial assistant and members of the court, and to provide only written commu-

nications could be misleading. Whilst it was the practice in the Court of Appeal, Criminal Division to disclose case summaries, there were distinctions between the position on an application for leave to appeal in a criminal case and in a civil case, and between the position of lawyers employed on the staff of the criminal division of the court, who prepared the summaries, and that of judicial assistants to the members of

the civil division of the court.

In the present case it was not without significance that while the appellant complained about the memorandum which had been prepared for his application for leave to appeal, leave to appeal had been given. The only prejudice which he suggested that he had sustained was that he had only been given leave to appeal on three specific points, whereas, but for the beach memorandum, he might have heen given leave on

wider grounds. On the hearing of the appeal the court had in fact considered all the material put before it, and the only argumenta which had any prospect of success were those which had been identified by the court granting leave to appeal.

With regard to those grounds, there was substance in the contention that there had been no evidence before the tribunal to justify the finding that the appellant had been in hreach of an undertaking, and he was, accordingly, entitled to have that finding quashed.

KATE O'HANLON Barrister

ROYAL **ENGAGEMENTS**

The Duke of York attends the launch of Trevor Jones's

"Inventure - The Next Challenge" at Cotton's Wharf, London SE10. The Princess Royal opens the Global Partnership World Fair '98 at Olympia 2.

London W14; and, as President, Animal Health Trust, attends a huncheon at Frogmore House, Windsor Great Park, Windsor,

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Gnards, 11am.

Announcements for BIRTHS. MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services. Wedding anniversaries, in memoriam) are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra).

Post Gazette announcements to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, telephone 0171-293 2012 (24-hour answering machine 0171-293 2011) or fax to 0171-293 2010. Please give a daytime telephone number.

WORDS

CHRISTOPHER HAWTREE colliflour, n.

that all Fadiman's family into proper shape, from are obsessive proof-readers. redundant apostrophes to In restaurants, their waiter surreal spelling. is invariably delayed by

their putting the menn marriage - and the fact Such wayward creations

are increasing. Only the other day, at Othello, a fashionable Italian restaurant in Hove. I spotted the useful coining of "vergin" olive oil. One might say, "I'm still pure - but vergin." My favourite remains the Indian grocer in Battersea who offered colliflour - which calls for a Thurber drawing of a shaking dog in a bakery,

8/FEATURES

The noble art of not getting thumped

WALKING UP the metal stairs that shows you round the room, which lead to Croydon Amateur Boxing Club, I remembered the vital public service once provided by places like this, as the main source of information for Regan and Carter from The Sweeney. The trainer, towel round neck, would say: "All I know, Jack, is Billy Nodsworth holds a grudge against Nobby Arkwright - jab, Terry, JAB! - who he thinks grassed him up over that diamonds hlag that landed him in Wandsworth – use yer left, Terry – so Billy's planning a scenario which can only end up in a shoot-out in a deserted industrial warehouse -

stop crying, Terry." It's been hard for this traditional working-class institution to boxing as a haven for Cockney vilsurvive the Nineties. Perhaps hecause boxing clubs can't be reinvented in a post-modern sense. like pie-and-mash shops and Are You Being Served. When a right hook lands on your nose it hurts, even if it's done with irony.

But this club, above a pub in Thornton Heath, is full of enthusiasm, and not just for thumping people. John Chambers, who helps to run it, hursts with pride as he round the ring fighting an imagi-

he rebuilt with a team of volunteers. "Look at these showers," he says with a contagious beam of delight. "Solid. Work perfectly, they do."

Putting the emphasis on plumbing could be the way to make boxing more endearing to the public. Imagine if every time Frank Bruno had taken a hiding, he'd said Tonight, Britain can feel proud. Because I might have had my face punched in, hut when I get home I can wash the blood off in the most dependable shower in the world."

Watching John and his partner, Ray, put their lads through two hours of training, you realise how misguided is the image of amateur lains with a market-stall and a broken nose. The emphasis is hardly on fighting at all, and almost entirely on fitness. They talk to the hoxers as mates, with great affec-tion and not a hint of PE teacher aggression or condescension. Which is not to say it isn't gruelling.

It starts with 10 minutes of skipping. Then shadow-boxing, in which the hoxers, in full regalia, dance

nary opponent. It must be tempting, during this exercise, to relax a little as you decide that today's imaginary opponent is a four foot squirt like Ashley from Coronation Street. Then there's a session on the punch-bags, followed by an endless rounds of jumps, press-ups, and sit-ups. Watching this activity,

you realise how ridiculous is the booming hobby of pretending you can get fit with no effort. These machines, advertised by smiling models who say 'Just five minutes a day of gently pushing this isometrically designed sheet of tin-foil backwards and forwards is all I need for a perfect figure," are rubbish. The truth is that fitness hurts. So, the club counts among its

members a karate champion and a competitor in the European swimming finals, and has helped train two professional footballers. Whereas it's unlikely that the winner of the European 200 metres breaststroke final will have done their training on a bendy thing called a "muscle-huilding compendium" they bought off the Shopping Channel.

In between the exercises, Ray, a

MARK STEEL



LOCATION

64-year-old Jamaican who looks 50, teaches the technique of dodging punches. Holding pads which the boxers aim at he ducks and bobs like an actor in a rap video. Occasionally, with alarming ease, he'll pat the boxer on the stomach or chin, as a way of informing him he's dropped his guard. It's all done with so much more panache than I remember, when friends of my Dad's would square up to me, growling "Let's see your guard son," apparently unaware that I was six.

Even the technical side of ama-

on avoiding being hit, rather than on walloping your opponent. Partly this is as a response to the attacks made on the sport, which has led to stricter regulations. No one can fight wearing contact lenses; gumshields must be white so that the referee can detect the faintest trace of blood; and Shola, a boxing travel consultant, discovered yet

"It was my first competitive fight, at the Cafe Royal. The bell was just about to go for the start when the referee told me I couldn't fight. He said I had too much stubble." It seemed that this could do some damage if it rubbed against the opponent's chin. As if a bloke who was prepared for a right hook in the eyeball was likely to think "Oo that's not fair, it's scratchy."

At this point John intervened. and the referee agreed that Shola could fight, as long as he had a shave inside one minute. So he dived into the changing room, rapidly slid a razor across his face (which was probably far more dangerous than any potential stubble-related violence), returned

teur boxing seems to concentrate to the ring and won on points.

The pacifist trend in modern boxing was demonstrated towards the end of the training session, when Shola fought a three round bout with Richard. He took a punch in the stomach which clearly hurt, at which point the fight stopped, and Richard helped him, saying how sorry he was. Therein lies the dilemma of amateur boxing.

Most sports can respond to accusations of danger by tightening up rules against violent conduct, and increasing the penalties for those who commit it. But what do you do when the sport is violent conduct? You could bring in a rule that after each punch, the opponents have to exchange gifts and make each other a pot of tea. But you can't escape the crucial role played in boxing by punching. So councils have been reticent about funding the clubs, and many have

Boxing suffers even more than other sports from the confusion about what motivates people to participate. At professional level, it can revolve around nationalism, greed and treachery, as proved by its

shady managers, squillion-dollar deals, mis-matches and fatalities.

But at local level, most participants wish only to be fitter and improve their performance. John and Ray dedicate several nights a week to their hobby of training people, with no reward other than their pupils' satisfaction and progress.

The permicious side of amateur boxing comes not from the trainers, or from the boxers, who all seemed humble, amiable and far from violent. It comes from the wealthy ghouls, armed with bow-ties and cigars, who parade their status in ringside seats at venues like the Cafe Royal, to watch working-class lads thump each other.

As for the boxers, John says: "After these lads have been through a session here, they're too knackered to get in a fight in a puh." And you certainly couldn't find any-thing in the boxing club to encourage a street brawler. When have you ever heard of a fight outside a nightcluh starting: "Right, you slag, you're dead! Unless I can't find my gumshield. Or you're wearing contact lenses. Now, has anyone got a razor and some shaving foam?"

Noddy goes to Hollywood In just eight weeks he's topped the American television ratings, even beating Sesame Street. How did

Noddy, that winsome little fellow with the annoying bell on his hat, is complete. No longer need we hide our copies of Well Done, Noddy and his other assorted adventures authored by our very own, and hriefly discredited, Enid Blyton. Noddy has mended his ways, he is polite to one and all, the Golliwogs - and all racist innuendo - have been ousted from Toyland, and we are all free to

ness, the United States, is falling in love with him. Goodness, when the children in the pediatric ward of the St Luke's Roosevelt Hospital in Manhattan got a Christmas visit from special guests just this Well, Santa Claus, of course, but also some unfortunate person dressed as Noddy, all rosy-cheeked and hrimming with happy anecdotes about life with his pals Big Ears and Officer Plod.

Officer Plod? Well, yes. Making Plod an Officer, rather than a PC, is one of the many little revisions visited upon the Noddy stories to make them work for an American televi-

he rehabilitation of sion audience. Noddy's famous yellow car has a trunk over here, not a boot, and Noddy, wait for it, has an American accent. Where Enid had him declaring "I say", now he has adopted "Gee Whiz!" Plod, you may be relieved to hear, has been allowed to keep both his English intonations and his hobby's hat.

Since September, Noddy has become a daily fixture in the firmament of American children's television. Some £4.6m have been spent by BBC Worldwide and the Enid Blyton Company, itself a subsidiary of We know this because even the a company called Chorion, to create land that invented political correct- a series of 40 episodes specially tailored for the young American viewer. And this week, we hear some astonishing news: Noddy is a

ratings phenomenon. Yes, if the boasting of the programme's makers is to be believed. mainstay of American kiddy TV. Sesame Street. According to the newest figures. Noddy now reaches 2.5 million US households, compared with 2.49 million for the venerable Sesame Street. Both programmes are offered by the Public Broadcast System, PBS.

PBS was unable, by the way, to confirm these figures, saying their own audience research does not extend heyond the first week of October. But never mind that "After only eight weeks, Noddy's

ratings are exceeding those of longestablished shows such as Sesame Street," gushed producer Rick Siggelow, who also created Shining Time Station, a version of Thomas the Tank Engine, for US audiences modern or daring. (a one-time favourite of my own offspring). "Noddy has got off to a much stronger start in America than mation, all set, in good Blyton tra-Thomas the Tank Engine did when It was first aired."

This, of course, should give us Britons moment for considerable pride. Can it be that we are, at last, turning back the tide of cultural influence on the TV tube that for too long has flowed relentlessly East-to-West across the dividing pond? Look at the evidence of 1998. This was the year, after all, when Telecreativity, staged their invasion of the New World. So step aside Big Bird. This land belongs now to Laa Laa, Dipsy, Tinky Winky and Po, now being joined by Noddy, Big Ears, Plod, Martha Monkey, Pink Cat and Dinah Doil, Even Sarah Ferguson hardly gets noticed any more. Among the children's shows that

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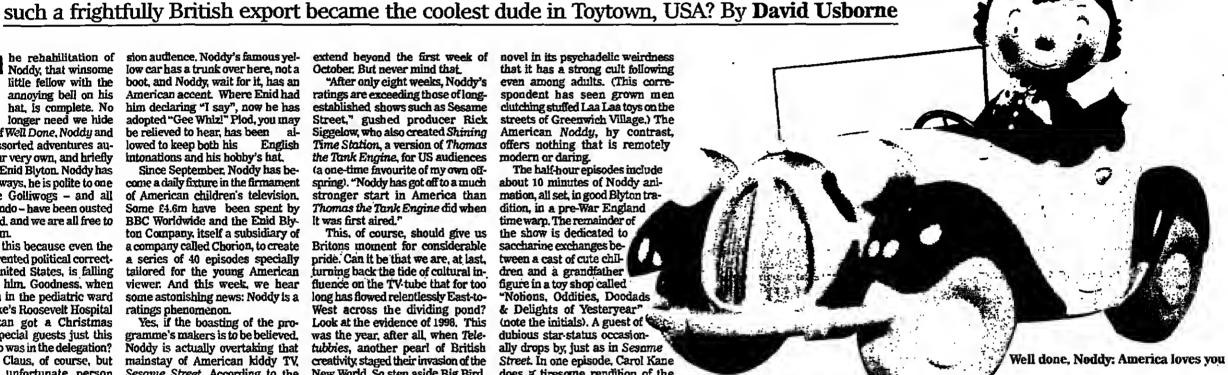
BRITISH DESIGNED & BUILT

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novel in its psychadelic weirdness that it has a strong cult following even among adults. (This correspondent has seen grown men clutching stuffed Laa Laa toys on the streets of Greenwich Village.) The American Noddy, hy contrast, offers nothing that is remotely

The half-hour episodes include about 10 minutes of Noddy anidition, in a pre-War England time warp. The remainder of the show is dedicated to saccharine exchanges be-tween a cast of cute children and a grandfather figure in a toy shop called "Notions, Oddities, Doodads & Delights of Yesteryear" (note the initials). A guest of dubious star-status occasion-Street. In one episode, Carol Kane does a tiresome rendition of the Tooth Fairy.

And of course, there is nary a trace of the sexist and racist stereo- rectness, because he has been typing that surfaced in the original Blyton books that, in the 1970s, were banned from British public libraries. There are African-Ameri-Noddy still trails in the US is Tele- cans among the children in the tubbies itself, a show that is so shop and even in the cast of puppets



playing with Noddy. This Noddy is no affront to American political cor-

transformed into high-PC himself. Next will come the licensing bonanza. The Itsy Bitsy Entertainment Company, which has already turned Teletubbies into a multi-million-dollar franchise, has been (with trunk). Book deals bave also can, Winnie the Pooh.

in North America, and is lining up deals for all manner of Noddy merchandise. By the new year, we are told, the shops will be piled high with

appointed as been signed with HarperCollins and agent for Noddy Dorling Kindersley. So, as the book cover says, "Well

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Done, Noddy". He may want to seek advice from another British favourite whose fame over here has Mr Wobblys and little yellow cars made him into an honorary Ameri-

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Unusual Gifts

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
pursuan to Section 98 of the
insolventy Act 1980 that a Meeting of
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Company with be held in Moonthatten
Hotel. 20 Moonthauth St., Covenil
Garden. London WCI1 4010 on 15th
December 1988 at 11.30am for the
purposes mentioned in Section 99 to
full of the said Act. Creditors within
full of the said Act. Creditors within
full of the said Act. Creditors within
proxy. Together with a full statement of
account at the registered office Charveille House. 20:77 Ovendon
Street. London SWIY 4EP not base
than 12 noon on 4th December 1998.
For the purposes of coung, a secured
creditor is required tuntes, be
surrenders his security in lodge at
Clarveille House. 20:77 Ovendon
Street, London SWIY 4EP before the
meeting, a statement gloing purioulars
of his security the date when it was
fine security to.

Street, Indion SWIY 4EP before the meeting, a statement gloung particulars of this security, the date when it was given and life value at which it is assessed.

Stephen Blandford Ryman and Nicholas Hugh O'Reilly of Rothman Pantill & Co., Clareville House, 2023.

Ozendon Street, London SWIY 4EP are personal qualified to act as Incolvency Practitioners in relation to the company and they will furnish reeditors free of charge, with such information as to the Company's allating as the eventuors may reasonably require small 14th December.

V. Washins

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Legal Notices IN THE RIGH COURT CHANCERY DIVISION STORES LIANU 1920

IN LIQUIDATION

MOTIES 5 HERRY CIVIN pursuant to Rafe
4.104 of the temphency faules 1996 that
Suphern Familian of Penne States Frenklin 6

Co. to Bioconstoury Square, London WC1/
212 was approved Liquidate of the above
named Company on 2 December 1996 by
Mercubes and Creditors.

Dated 4 December 1996
5189-HDN FRANKLIN Liquidator

IN THE MATTER OF SCHMIDLIN (UK) LIMITEO ANO IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated Washesday the "Sith day of November 1948 confirming the reduction of capital of the Company by the cancellation of 5,500,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each was registered by the Registrar of Companies of Thursday 3rd December 1998.

Dated this 11th day of December (see

olicitors to the Company

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All our tomorrows

Continued from page 1 she and my father had bought. Such is the culture of Irish society, that she survived this reckless experiment.

The neighbours ran errands, brought her meals, kept her informed. The local nuns brought her Victoria sponge cakes and enquired about her wayward son in London. Friends, nephews and nieces, local priests and handymen all came a-calling chatted to her cut the grass, made cups of tea and

keot her stocked with gossip. Since she died, the whole subject of ageing and "eoding up", far from being a ghastly, depressing thought, has started to fascinate me. Now, at existential plateau, accepting that this income, this diet, this regimen of work and sleep and parties and reading and holiwill spin through my days like do, it seems, will become institutionalised, like pulling the

Christmas tree lights out of the attic every year.

What will change will be the won't pack up, shortly after your ability to taste and smell. personnel It's the knowledge that your children are so tranknowledge that your time with them can't last. That's when you start to consider how you'll haemorrhoidal, impotent, in-

chances are you'll have become Ronald Reagan 10 years later. That you'll sit, becalmed in a yellow-curtained day-room and a low income hracket, unchanging, like a tree or the Queen Mother, while age and Time perform their final nasty

tricks on you, making you die

of boredom and loneliness.

More positive impulses tell you that all your friends will go on like you, to 85, exchanging symptoms of minor ailments, and recommending hot toddies and holidays in Bali to each other. That you will always live in your own house, no matter what, with people calling once or twice a day. That you'll be able to drive, if only on B-45, I'm aware of settling into an roads, and will have enough money not to need insulting concessionary hus passes or cheap theatre tickets. That you will still be able to write and days and sex and Sunday lunch read and dance. That your eyesight will not fail you, or your a carousel with occasional liver or digestive tract, that minor variations. Everything I your hips will not disintegrate, or your ability to talk sense and remember the words of songs.

Old age is starting to land on more and more British men sient that afflicts you, the and women. The constituency of "older people" in this country is growing all the time. The figures are startling. There are end up. After a time, the pos- 11 million pensioners in the UK sibilities resolve into two ex- at present, the figure will be 12 tremes. The negative impulses million by 2010. Falling birth in your head tell you that, if rates and better health care you're lucky, your friends will mean that the classic pyramidie before you. That, if you're dal structure of abundant lucky, you'll just get immobile, young people (at the base) and few oldsters (at the apex) is continent, deaf, bronchitic and heing turned on its head. The barmy, rather than the bleak old will go on being old for alternative. That, even if you're longer. Half the population of Dennis Hopper at 52, the over 75s have a long-term

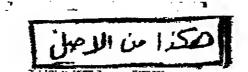
debilitating illness, hut fewer attention; as a nation we're getting healthier.

The only thing that we aspirant wrinklies have to cling to is that, when we're old, there'll be an awful lot of us to lobby the government about larger pensions, flexible working hours, gradual semi-retirement and less age discrimination in the

cardiac units of the NHS. And when all the crucial issues of age have been tackled. by the government and by age

we'll have to turn for comfort. people need regular medical Somethings are beyond money and laws, such as the Celtic generosity that filled my mother's last years with companionship and chat - in a word, society. When we've finished being Dennis Hoppers and celebrating our cool maturity, it will be time to start looking after each other. For it's in the way society cares for its oldest, most vulnerable citizens that its real value can be judged. As I shall write and inform Boh Dylan on his 60th birthday, two years from now.





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Toy story: Clara and Conor get to grips with My Pal, the wipe-clean Dalmatian and a fantasy cube. Below left, the bumper bead-frame, and right, a hand-made wooden jigsaw

Kalpesh Lathigra

Toys R so us, darling

Even if designer toys fail to impress the children, they'll look great in your Poggenpohl kitchen. By E Jane Dickson

faintly tragic about censoring toys on aesthetic grounds. I'll never forget the look on when I tried to exchange "Baby", a doll with chartreuse hair and stupendous hreasts won in an Italian tombola, for something more tasteful. "But mummy!" pleaded Clara, "She can't help being hideous." I felt like Joan Crawford in Mommie tn grow up sinister toy fascists a design connoisseur, particularly ap-("Dear Santa, please send me a afted rubberwood artefact. Please make sure it's from a renewable timber source"), but on the nther hand, the monstrous regimen of Furbys must be stopped. There has to be a third way, and Soup Dragon, a toyshop with branches in north and south London, might just

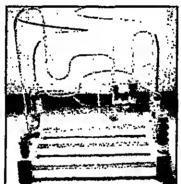
have found it. There is nothing in Soup Dragon's stock (also available by mail order) that the most style-conscious parent would not be thrilled to leave strewn about the parquet for the Christmas drinks party, and children won't feel carse, it's My Pal (£24.99), a wood-ery wall and, at £39.50, is probably

here is something en Dalmatian pullalong with a won- more in the christening gift than the this way, there are no bits to be swalderfully responsive action. Designed Christmas present league. by a local craftsman, My Pal has popular toy of the season. His innomy daughter's face vative construction - wooden panels on bendy rubber hinges - means most satisfying manner. Conor, 11 months, was deeply smitten, lavishing jammy kisses and looking perpetually surprised and delighted to find faithful Pal bowling along behind Dearest. I do not wish my children him. Clara, who at three, is more of

> proved the wagginess of his tail. Older children will enjoy Soup Dragon's build-your-own automata (£12.30-£15.90). By a remarkably simple peg and ratchet arrangement you can make your man laugh, clap or cycle to beat the band.

At the ever so slightly anal end of the scale, there are George Luck's exquisite picture jigsaws. Framed and glazed like a work of art, these hand-tooled wooden jigsaws fea-ture maps of Great Britain and Ireland or Europe; the interlocking pieces are fashioned in the shape of animals indigenous to each region. they've been sold a pup, unless of This is definitely one for the nurs-

Another reliable source of hand-Company. Their bumper bead-frame



small children and don't fall over one of these in the kitchen, you should think twice about further invitations. The extravagant claims made by bead-frame buffs for hand-eye development, colour recognition, dexterity etc are largely guff; you'd get exactly the same educational value from playing with a button box. But you're not using. On the pointless-

lowed or pushed up small noses and it does look nice against the Poggen- a bit of non-event. Pleasingly postproved to be Soup Dragon's most some, well-made toys is The Hill Toy pohl. It kept Connr absorbed for 20 modern in shape, they are all very minutes at a stretch, which is good chic and Scandinavian but at the end (£42.50) has become a contemporary going for a tiny, while Clara made up style icon. Frankly, if you go to din- affecting stories about the "little that he can chase his own tail in the ner at any smart bouse cootaining lonely bead going to join his friends".



She was also very taken with Henri le Lapin (£9.95), a cute wooden rabbit puzzle with interchangeable clothes and facial expressions. Parents will be charmed by Henri's chic French outfits and the sturdy wooden box that provides a "bed" for Henri and a container for all the bits

ist natural wood Jumbo Bricks were of the day, they did seem a hit, well, colourless. In a control experiment with these and his own identically shaped coloured bricks. Conor went for the colours every time.

Letterbox is a Cornish mail-order company which imports toys from around the world. Their Germanmade walking dog (£89.99) is the kind of toy that will become a family heirloom. As the child rocks, the completely non-mechanical dog "walks", or rather creeps across the floor. It certainly hit the right note with Clara, who went so far as to include it, pointedly, in her bedtime story. Less successful is Letterbox's snapping crocodile, £9.99. Beautifully signed, it is labelled as "unsuitable for children under 36 months" hut it is hard to see what any selfrespecting child over three would want with a push-along toy.

Finally, if money is no object you could push the boat/car/spaceship out with Dawson and Son's Fantasy Cube, a lovingly finished "lifesize" wooden construction set with

ly tasteful front, Hill Toys' minimal- enough pegs and cogs and ritchetyratchety things to keep Isambard Kingdom Brunel happy straight through till tea. Conor went for the whirligigs on the front, while Clara pronnunced the cube a sleigh and ber hrother a reindeer and improvised herself a microphone for a shouty version of "Rudolf". If £265 seems a lot to shell out for some very basic materials, bear in mind this is an imagination-powered toy that

really will grow with your children. One cautionary note about designer toys. Your children will naturally abandon them on Christmas morning for the Lap Dancer Barbie that was sent by an unsuitable uncle. But your playroom will never

bave looked so good.

Stockists: Soup Dragon, 27 Topsfield. Parade, Tottenham Lane, London N8 8PT (0181-348 0224); and 106 Lordship Lane, London SE22 8HF (0181-693 5575); mail order catalogue orderline 0870 606 1202 The Hill Toy Company, 71 Abingdon Road, London W8 6AW (0171-937 8797); mail order 01765 689955/0870 6071248 Letterbox mail order 01872 580885 Dawson and Son mail order 01480

DESIGN News

FOR THOSE in search of oneoff presents - for themselves, for example – Contemporary Crafts' seasonal show may well be the answer. Thirty designers and craftspeople have contributed objects of delight, from steel-mesh pod and leaf mobiles by Amanda Bright, to enamel brooches by Judy McCaig. Contemporary Crafts is at Avant Garden, 77 Ledbury Road, London W11; until 24 December, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-6pm (0171 243

SOTHEBY'S RESTOWS glamour to the miserable business of late-night Christmas shopping with a sale of selected items including jewellery, wine, rugs, pictures and silver, on 15 December at 6.30pm. Prices start at £50, and a gift wrap service is available. At Sotheby's, 34-35 New Bond St, London W1 (0171 408 5152), viewing Fri 12 Dec. 9am-4.30pm; Sun 14, 12 noon-4pm; and Mon 15, 9am-5.30pm

IF LEATHER, fake fur and feathers are your thing. snuggle up to Samson Saboye's throws and cushions. These are not your average home accessories, hut the work, it's claimed, of "a true Afro-futurist". At Bowwow, 70 Princedale Road, London W11, until 24 December, 10am-6pm (0171 792 85321

NINE MEMORIAL exhibitions

mark the first anniversary of the death of the potter R J Washington (1913-97). A pupil of William Staite Murray (Bernard Leach's competitor for the title of Britain's first studio potter) and like him the maker of tall, tapering pots - some fashioned as women - Washington worked and taught in clay for more than 60 years. The restrospective at Chelmsford & Essex Museum (01245 353066) runs until 7 Feb 1999. Smaller shows at: V&A. London, until 31 Dec (0171 938 8500); Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge until 20 Dec (01223 332900); Paul Rice Gallery. London until 19 Dec (0181 992 4186); Birmingham City Museum & Art Gallery until 10 Jan 1999 (0121 303 2834); Cleveland Craft Centre, Middlesbrough until 4 Jan 1999 (01642 262376); The Potteries Museum, Stoke-on-Trent until 31 March 1999 (01782 232323); Portsmouth City Museum until 15 Jan 1999 (01705 827261)



Pot by R J Washington

FIRST CLASS DELIVERIES

HAVE YOU done your Christmas shopping yet? Only two more Saturdays to go before it's too late, so abandon all bope of the High Street and dn the rest by mail order. You're still in time to phone the following companies for a selection of stylish unusual and relatively inexpensive gifts.

The General Trading Excellent selection of decorative accessories for the home, traditional styles as well as more unusual gifts, such as a woven blue and neutral raffia laundry basket from Madagascar (£60), or a range of bathroom accessories featuring wooden bird sculptures from £22. Last orders: 21 December. 144 Sloane Street, London SW1 (0171 730 0411)

Graham & Greene Small but select mail-order catalogue with a diverse range of items, from chic soft suede cushions (£62, epictured) to faux bamboohandled cutlery (16-piece, dishwasher-proof, £44.25) Last orders: 14 December. 4,7,10 Elgin Crescent, London W11 (0171 727 4594)

stitching (from £94.99), and

an anodised aluminium bed Aeromali tray (£79.95) which is both Designer furniture and stylish and practical. accessories, ranging from classics like the Le Corbusier chaise longue in leather (£695; £720 in ponyskin) or a cocktail table hy

Last orders: 12 December. 96 Westbourne Grove. Eileen Gray (£180), to wool hlankets in black, grey and camel with contrasting

London W2 (0171 221 1950) Lear's Queery Leary Nonsense (£20), **Bodlelan Library** Bibliophile friends will be thrilled by the Bodleian's catalogue. Try the Victorian

books mouse mat (£9.99), and a set of four Edward Lear mugs featuring Spotty Bird, Stripy Bird, Runcible Bird and Lilac Bird from Last orders: 18 December. Broad Street, Oxford (01865

Amicia de Moubray

She trips the light fantastic

REVOLVING MIRROR-tiled glitter globes, which have been reflecting romantic darts of light in ballrooms since the 1920s have suddenly got bigger and funkier. Kay Spinks makes them up to seven feet high, in complex, geometric shapes that turn the dark interiors of nightclubs and discos into swirling kaleidoscopes.

Mirror globes merely remind dancers that they are enclosed in a cube. But what about a dodecahedron, or the massive helix that revolves in the stairwell of London's Hanover Grand nightclub? It makes the clubbers going up and down the winding staircase feel as though they are passing through a spiral galaxy.

Legends, the Mayfair nightcluh, has a three-foot wide dodecahedron with 12 spheres on stalks, which hounces coloured lights off the diadems worn by all-night revellers.

Spinks, a 27-year-old art college graduate, is the founder of London design company Glitter and Twisted. She sculpts shapes from fire-retardant polystyrene, then sticks on up to 20,000 rubber-backed mirror tiles with fire-retardant glue.

Brendan Clarke, of Insight

Revolving light at the Hanover Grand Nicola Kurtz

social events and has so far ple-which breaks up and goes bought three of Spinks's cre- everywhere. They describe reaches beyond normal disco lighting and into the future.

ations. "They're amazing," he their own shape on the surface says. They have a glitziness that of the room. You can get some quite amazing effects, such as crossed reflections. I'm sur-Lighting of Islington in north

"We project imagery on to prised that more people are not London, provides lighting for them - an oil effect, for exam-huying them for the home."

Prices: £800-£1,200, Glitter and huying them for the home."

Spinks has made 20 "mirror objects", as she calls them, since launching Glitter and Twisted in February. The designs are commissinned by clients - with the help of a textbook of geometric shapes and take four weeks to make.

She says: "I like to make shapes with geometric forms, some sort of order. If the forms are too organic, they get tricky."

The Opera House nightclub in Bournemouth has also installed six glittering sculptures by Spinks. These are similar to the one in the Hanover Grand, which is a popular hangout with the Spice Girls and Leonardo di Caprio.

Twysden Moore, director of the Hanover Grand, encouraged her to reach for the stars and build a 7ft-tall glitter sculpture for the club. Powered by an electric motor in the ceiling, it reflects red, yellow and white light from spotlights on to the purple walls.

"It creates a flowing sensation," he says. "Glitter globes have been used since the 1920s, but they're still relevant to the modern dance scene. They're so simple - and so beautiful."

JOHN WINDSOR

Aliens beneath the ice?

Is there life on Mars? Who cares underwater Europa is the top space destination. By David Whitehouse

f the myriad varied worlds in our solar system, there is for planetary scientists one place they really want to go only one mission they would like. in their heart of hearts, to work on. It is not to red Mars, to shepberd rovers across its rock-strewn surface using probes and diggers to prospect for evidence of past, and

possibly present, life. It is not to build a probe to fly alongside a comet as it draws near the Sun, watching it change from a and minerals and kept liquid by hot frozen mountain to a seething world of gas geysers and dust fountains trailing gossamer spirals in between the planets.

No, for many scientists neither of these missions is number one. The has been a stable environment for fact is that you cannot talk about possibly tens of millions of years. Europa for very long without yearning to know more. It is Europa that that the essential ingredients are reduce speed. One minute before immany believe offers the best chance there for life to have evolved. But it's to find extraterrestrial life in our

This moon of Jupiter - the fourthlot smaller than our own moon, It's a smooth, ice-crusted world, covered with frozen ridges and rafts. No known world is smoother. If you could stand on its icy surface, you would see oothing more than 1 kilometre high anywhere on Europa.

But it is not a featureless world. There are bright polar plains ringed by pits and plateaux. There are chaotic regions, and there are regular streaks that traverse vast distances across this tiny world. Some of these lines bave an almost artificial look about them - as if they were motorways for some alien

Beneath the frozen landscape

there are titanic energies at work. Tides probably cause the ice surface to rise and fall by 20 metres every three days.

The tidal energy is significant. As the ice and rock flex, their movement pumps energy into the interior of Europa, into the rocks below its icy skin. The interior rocks get hot. Because of this, scientists estimate that the ice just above the rock would melt, forming a liquid ocean under the ice.

So there it is. Four bundred million miles away there could be a water environment rich in chemicals vents where superheated water gushes through fissures from the hot rocks below. All protected from the vacuum of space by a layer of ice more than I kilometre thick. This

To many scientists this means no use just sending a probe to orbit Europa; in order to see whether there really is life there, you have largest of its 12 satellites - is not a somebow to get beneath its skin and swim in its sunless seas. It would perhaps be the most dif-

ficult space mission ever envisaged. than a dream sketched out in a hazy, ill-defined plan. The first stage is to send a space

probe to orbit Europa, to deter-mine wbether there really is a liquid ocean underneath the moon's ice. Nasa scientists said this week that the plans for the probe's instruments are almost finalised, and an announcement is expected early next year, with a launch date scheduled for 2003.

After that, the real mission begins. This time there will be no at-



An artist's interpretation of the surface of Europa, the smallest of all the moons of Jupiter

tempt to enter orbit around Europa; instead the probe will make a direct descent to its icy surface. To stop its being dashed to pieces on Europa's hard ice, retro-rockets would fire to pact, huge, inflatable balloons would envelop the probe to cushion its impact, dissipating energy as it bounced across the ice. This system worked on Mars, which is a rough

world. Europa is a smooth sphere,

so it should work there too,

Imagine, in the not too distant At the moment it is not much more future, the following sequence of events. The balloons deflate in the correct order, leaving the probe standing the right way up on the surface. The balloons release, into Europa's thin, almost non-existent atmosphere, more gas than it has known for billions of years.

> Harpoons fired in several direcbons drag behind them curtains of thin foil, thin, flexible solar panels to add to the energy output of the craft's main nuclear generator. The cylinder that forms the core

descend into the Ice, boring a hole just 30cm across. Once the probe disappears, the water refreezes almost instantaneously.

Emerging hours later into the sea beneath the ice, the probe starts to fall faster. Tiny sensors detect its acceleration and pull the data cable taut, bringing the probe to a halt. The first task is to wait, and lis-

ten. Sensitive microphones strain for the sounds of this alien ocean, the creaking of the ice above and the "ping" of an acoustic sounder. Then the bullet-shaped probe unfurls an array of sensors. A series of electronic tongues taste the water and provide a rapid chemical analysis.

Two searchlights, one narrow to look as far as possible, the other a wide beam, illuminate a sunless sea, the first bright lights in tens of millions of years, perhaps longer

upright and develop the intellectual

This does not mean, however,

that the story is lost for ever. A few

critically important fossils, dating to

various points in the period that has

elapsed since humans and apes

enabled experts to huild up a

remarkable picture of how humankind evolved into what we

are today.

shared a common ancestor, have

One of the most remarkable fossils will undoubtedly turn out to

be the oldest complete skeleton of a

hominid - an ape-like creature that

is not quite fully human - which was

discovered in the limestone caves of

Sterkfontein near Krugersdorp in

emeritus professor of palaeontology

at the University of Witswatersrand,

who has been in charge of the site's

week that the skeleton is "probably

creature that lived between 3.22 and

3.6 million years ago, and scientists

have classified it as a member of

Australopithecus. Raymond Dart.

the renowned Witwatersrand

gave it the scientific name

southern age of Africa.

palaeontologist, first coined the

excavation for 30 years, said this

the most momentous find ever

The skeleton is of a 4-ft-tall

made in Africa".

the group known as

South Africa. Philip Tobias,

capacity to speak and think.

A smaller sub-probe is jettisoned and darts away, straight down, trailing a fibre-optic cable behind it. For long minutes it continues to fall. Nothing is seen yet by its television camera, other than a featureless

pool of light. Then rocks come into view. Within a millisecond the Europa submersible's on-board com-

Its descent is leisurely - it has many measurements to make on the way. Periodically it halts to take readings of temperature, pressure and water composition. Samples of the water are scooped into a tiny container, and a powerful microscope looks for any sign of

puter has worked out how far below

it lies the sea floor and how long it

will take to get there.

microbial life.

Reaching the sea floor is only half of its journey. It now has to find a by drothermal vent. Its sensors have detected a chemical gradient and It heads off in the direction of the increased concentration, moving upstream in a river of sulpbur compounds swirling at the bottom of this strange, ice-covered ocean in a distant world.

After two hours of travel by the probe, scientists are wondering whether it will ever reach the vent. Dr David Whitehouse is science They are concerned for the power editor of BBC online

supply. Then they spot the vent as a red leer on the infrared display. From now on, monitoring the water temperature around the probe is an all-important task. It would be all too easy to swim it into a column of superheated water that would melt the craft in seconds. To prevent this, thermometers on

stalks precede the probe. Its searchlights sweep the sea

floor and the path ahead. Soon the hydrothermal vent itself comes into view, a jumbled mound of rocks about five metres high. Out of the top of the rock pile can be seen a winding column of black water. Back on Earth such vents are nicknamed "black smokers", and are known for being oases of life on the barren sea floor.

The probe halts, its cameras focusing in on the area around the base of the mound. Could this be the moment we catch our first sighting of an alien life form?

UPDATE

A URINE test developed in Ireland could soon identify people who have been unknowingly dosed with the "date rape" drug Rohypnol, a powerful sedative that can also cause amnesia for up to 24 hours. New Scientist reports that the test can work up to a week after the drug has been taken. Rohypnol has been implicated in a number of rapes, because it is odourless and tasteless dissolved in water. Thousands of women believe they have been raped after men slipped it into their drinks.

FOETAL PIG cells implanted into the brains of two American men whose epileptic seizures could not be controlled by drugs seemed to have improved their condition, according to preliminary results. Dr Steven Schachter, of Harvard Medical School, carried out the surgery, putting in cells that produce a neurotransmitter, GABA, as part of a study to see whether the transplants are feasible and safe. One man, aged 40, had suffered one seizure per month before the operation in July, but had none since; the other had 22 in three months before the implant, compared to 13 afterwards. But it is still too soon to know bow useful such an approach might be, Dr Schachter said.

IMPRINTING, WHEREBY only one of a pair of genes inherited from parents is "switched on" in an embryo, may explain why so many species cannot interbreed and why some cloning

attempts may fail. According to researchers at Princeton University, New Jersey, mating two closely related species of mouse led to both copies, rather than one, of the imprinted genes being switched on. Equally, eggs from 🥨 one species may be unable to 'read" the imprinting proteins from another's sperm, says New Scientist. That would stop attempts to use cows' eggs as a "vessel" for cloning other species too.

JOHN REDWOOD, now the shadow Science Minister, told a meeting of Save British Science last week that the Conservatives "made mistakes" in cutting science funding when they were in power, but added, "We have changed". SBS, it may be recalled, was set up 12 year as a direct response to the

Tories' cuts in science funding Mr Redwood also said that he welcomed the new Labour administration's increase in the science budget - £700m over three years. But he added that the Conservatives would put more emphasis on tax incentives to encourage private investories put money into research.

POWERFUL MAGNETS affect the way that cells divide, according to a team at Brown University in Rhode Island. By levitating frog embryos using magnetic fields about half a million times stronger than the Earth's, they found that the direction of cell division was changed compared to that seen in normal gravity without excess magnetism. New Scientist reports that the team is now looking for precise causes / involving long cell components called microtubules.

UP TO 38 per cent of all the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere is produced by respiration in the soil - where roots and similar carbon sources may be encouraged to perform more oxidation by higher temperatures, says Richard Boone, of the University of Alaska.

That could mean that global warming will increase the amount of the greenhouse gas produced by the soil, and lead to a positive feedback loop. The report appears in this week's Nature.

THE ONLY working reactor at Chernobyl in Ukraine developed a fault that forced the operators to lower its output power twice this week. In one incident, one of the 200 safety rods, which stop the reaction, became cut off from its power supply. Another had

trouble with a turbine pump. None of these problems caused a radiation leak, but pressure is now growing for the ageing reactor to be shut for a safety upgrade. However, many towns and villages in the former Soviet country already suffer power cuts for bours each day because of fuel shortages, so the repairs have been put off for two weeks thus far. In 1986 one of the four reactors at the site blew up 3) in the world's worst nuclear accident, when a late-night test

went wrong. CHARLES ARTHUR

THE TRUTH ABOUT...

OLYMPIA 2 ONE OF the greatest myths of buman evolution is that there is a "missing link" that will provide palaeontologists with the final piece in the historical jigsaw of Man. The fact is that there are bundreds or thousands of missing links in the complex, long-winded tale of how a tree-climbing ape came down to the forest floor, and started to walk

DECEMBER 11TH 12TH 13TH

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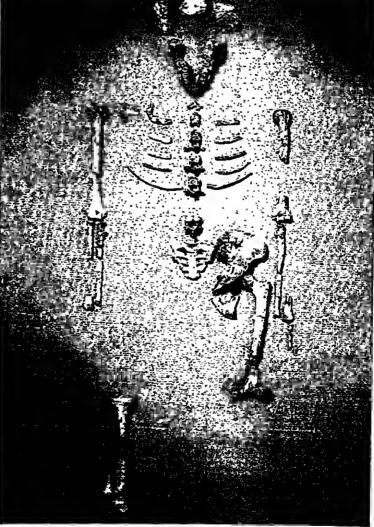
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name in the 1920s after discovering the front half of a 2.5-million-yearold skull, with jaws and teeth, of what is known as the "Taung child". after the place it was found. Dart anthropologists bad no tangible Australopitheçus africanus years."

Several species of the Australopithecines have since been described, including the famous 3million-year-old "Lucy", a halfcomplete skeleton discovered in 1974 in the Afar region of presentday Ethiopia. Lucy, a female barely 3ft tall, seemed to offer the first glimpse of the anatomical adaptation to bipedalism, according to the palaeoanthropologist Richard Leakey. "By definition, the first bominid species to have evolved, some 7 million years ago, would



'Lucy', Australopithecus afarensis skeleton, found in 1974 NHM

have been a hiped ape of sorts. But until the Lucy skeleton came along, evidence of hipedalism in a human species older than about 2 million

Tantalising remnants of skeletons, bits of bones and halfcomplete skulls, have been found of bominid-like animals even older than the Sterkfontein skeleton. The most famous is Ramipithecus, found in India and Kenyapithecus. in east Africa, dated to perhaps 14 million years old. Although these were originally thought to be "missing links" in the line of human evolution, scientists now believe they were related to other lines of apes that diverged from the

hominids who evolved into burnaus. It is another ape-like creature, Ardipithecus ramidus, alive about 5 million years ago, which is the strongest contender for ancestor of the Australopithecines.

Ardipithecus was not blessed with a large brain but its upright gait was clearly adapted to a life spent out of the trees for at least some of the time. It took another 2.5 million years, after the Australopithecines had evolved into even more human-like creatures, for the first true human - Homo habilis - with its greatly increased brain capacity, to appear. As the name suggests, H habilis was handy with tools.

STEVE CONNOR

To Lean. 125 Aug. ----W. ve a us o des es la la CONT. M TEST IS

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Will the Earth move anyone?



The water purification plant at the Earth Centre by Will Alsop opens as a tourist attraction at Easter

Dennis Gilbert

The Earth Centre was supposed to be a Millennium landmark, an ecological glass house to bring the rainforest to Doncaster. But the party spirit may not survive electric rickshaws, airline loos, and lessons in sustainable development. By Nonie Niesewand

Il over Britain, lottery-funded tourist centres and mod-Lest museums in the middle of business parks herald the dawning of the New Millennium.

But from Earth in Edinburgh, to the Eden Project in Cornwall, from the Deep marine complex in Kingston-upon-Hull to the Centre for Life in Newcastle, the Millennium projects are in trouble. Within a year of opening, all of them have scaled down their original architecturally exciting schemes. With lottery grants dependent on matching funds from commercial sponsors, the dreams often turn into mere pedestrian bricks and mortar. Pity the poor organisers of the

"Elarth Centre, nutside Doncaster, who bad to kick-start sustainable eco-chic ideas in a closed-down coal mine. They had to reject wouldbe sponsors who were not squeaky clean enough for the greens, as well as become the environmentallyfriendly model for the construction and landscape industry. Even common-or-garden fly-spray in the organic gardens has been replaced by marignld, mint and basil borders. the Earth Centre nestles in the nicelag beap left by two closed coal mines, Cadeby and Denaby, outside Doncaster in south Yorkshire. It looks green enough, with 35 acres of expensive top-soil covering the heap, a forest woodland taking root and latticed domes as plant-climbing frames to make the featureless landscape more interesting.

There is an organic food restautre and a water purification plant for

measures up to the chief executive Jonathan Smale's definition of sustainability which he explains as "finding a way to live on this planet, that enables human development but which doesn't irrevocably damage systems, so that the generations coming after us have the same basic rights."

Put that together with the Millennium Commission's tough remit to find 50/50 funding and maintain visitor levels without dumbing down. and you will see how hard the Earth Centre has battled to get off the drawing board.

And will it attract the projected 500,000 visitors in its first year? Green tourists arriving by train, hike or on foot will be rewarded with a 40 per cent discount on their £4.59 entrance fee. But motorists will pay the full fee, and be whisked from the car park by the hike train - the first electrically assisted, pedal-powered rickshaw in Europe. On launch day this week, it had broken down.

The newly installed waterless loos weren't working either. "It's so powerful that it would suck you into the sewage system and blow you away," Mr Smales explained when he refused to let me visit this particular tourist attraction. The waterless lavatories are billed by Earth Centre spin doctors as second only to the "amazing rotating Planet Earth Galleries" and the solar-powered lamps.

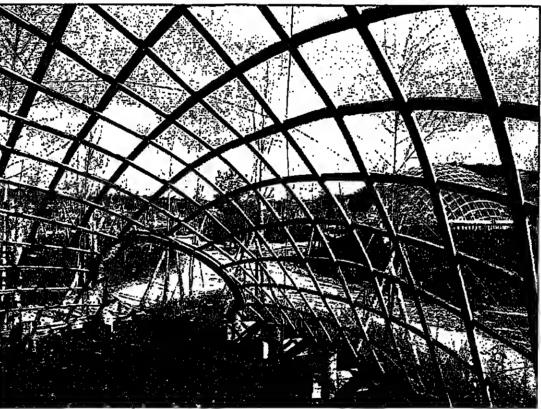
Throw all the superlatives you like at the Earth Centre attractions - and they did, from "futuristic, surprising. rant, the Planet Earth visitor cen- magical and breathtaking in content" - and what visitors are left with waste water, with aquatic plants is a water purification plant, de-

water into ponds to sustain plant life, and a featureless wedge of a limestone building, tucked into the disused colliery, by Richard Feilden and Peter Clegg.

These are the amazing rotating Planet Earth Galleries .Inside two exhibition halls, two 20-minute of matter burtling about in the void

bang big enough to form our little show played out on glass panels in

planet Earth, out the sound and light the centre of Planet Earth sounds a trifle subdued. The Earth music is played up from the floor in solemn, E-flat pieces from Bach and Mahler. shows are staged. If Stephen Hawk- while the outer fringes have shrill, ing is to be believed, two kilograms F-Flat sounds accompanying images of pollution. This is actually a



growing in it. The 400-acre site signed by Will Alsop, which recycles An oak climbing frame for plants will provide shelter in a couple of years

exploded in a flash of light with a crowd-control device to keep visitors the building without energy loss moving into the middle, away from by drawing in air through vents. the fringes and on towards the shop.

Planet Earth will have a dark. subterranean feel - a bit like being underground in a coal mine - and the acoustics have a nine-second echo like that in a cathedral. The most remarkable feature of the down-toearth building is a labyrinth floor which regulates the temperature of

warming - or cooling - it, then recirculating the air. If the system works - and the Romans ploneered the idea - why does this Millennium landmark pro-

ject upen next Easter, only to close

six months later for the winter? In The Future Works newsletter, Jonathan Smales explains that the Earth Centre exists to help individuals make decisions, however small, that will make a significant and positive impact on the future, "Our role is to show that people can influence the world around them, and that global environmental problems like climate change and the loss of biological diversity are not abstract but real to their lives." So why don't they stay npen in the winter and show us how to keep warm and dry withnut puncturing the ozone layer?

What the Earth Centre needed was a big. state-of-the-art greenbnuse with climate controls. Ironic, really, because that is exactly how it started out, with a huge, glazed Ark spreading its hutterfly wings of solar-powered cells over the slag heaps. The Ark, by Future Systems, was designed to use sunlight to create an indoor rainfnrest and replicate different climate zones. One of the first projects to apply successfully for Inttery money (£50m), the Earth Centre started off as a swan but ended as an ugly duckling.

So far the Millennium Commission have only given them £20m, so now everyone talks about the 66-acre development as Phase One. Phase Two will be Alsop's lopsided, crinkly tower, 28 metres high with a silicone tre make?"

glass skin over steel. Set to open in April 2000, the tower will house the "new Millennium cities show" which raised £4.5m from the EU reginnal development fund.

The Earth Centre is not so much recycled as reinvented. Acid rain couldn't have been more destructive to the Ark than the tinkering about with the original concept. Jonathan Smales still insists that the Ark will be built in Phase Three, but can't say when that will be. The "techno organic architecture" that was to be an ecological masterpiece, will instead bouse a convention centre servicing the business park office blocks and new hotels also planned.

The centre's new MD. Alastair Creamer from London's Chicken is full of uptimism. "This is a mustsee attraction," he said, "For me, it has become a 'must work for' one.'

Once, the two coal mines here employed 2,000 people, but since the last pit closure in 1983, seven out of 10 families have stayed nut of work m what is one of the most deprived areas of Britain.

As Britain turns into a service industry, the unemployed will be trained as shop assistants, minders, greeters and waiters.

The Earth Centre is recruiting 120 men and women to train at its Academy. So when it opens, former coal miners and their families will be back down at the old pit, dressed up in Swampy-style fatigues in amuse the kids. Earthmauts, zooming about on mountain bikes, will monitor the crowds.

And the locals still ask Jonathan Smales: "What does the Earth Cen-

The pod's passé and the soap-dish is a dud

ONCE AGAIN Trmy Blair's Government has proved that although they might be great at buzz words and big ideas, they are nnt prepared to put their money where their mouth is. Government after government in

this country has failed to understand one basic fact that our French and German neighbours grasped ages ego: nothing places you in the history books better than a great building. All over Europe, cities from Paris to Berlin to Marseilles have important public buildings by cuttingedge architects. Creating a new building for the new Mayor of London and the Greater Londor Authority was an opportunity for Blair to translate Cool Britannia into a monument for his vision. We've already seen an out-of-date design for our millennium "experience" down in south-east London. Now there is a very strong chance that a building designed in the Twenties, looking like a feeble version of Selfridges or Leeds Town Hall, may be tarted up, decked out in glass ("fransparency" being a big buzz word in Government these days) and have a few pods inserted into its guts to provide and the grandiose, neo-classical Vican Assembly Chamber for our toria House in Bloomsbury Square.

Mayor and his cohorts. aynsford, upset a lot of people by asking the estate agents Knight Frank and Rutley to come up with suitable sites for the Mayor's home. has tinkered with Victoria House, re-



doesn't new Labour want a monument to London's new Mayor, asks Janet Street-Porter Trouble is, Blair's big idea came with moving three floors and adding a second-division building. I know the no cash, so a "partnership" (anoth-

er Labour buzz word) was called for Basically, developers have proposed buildings or vacant lots and it is developers who have put architects in place, not Raynsford. The developers pay for the building and lease it to the GLA for 15 years. That hardly adds up to a massive vote of confidence in the lifespan of London's new governing body on the part of the Government, does it?

After an exhibition attended by 1,000 people, two locations were chosen. Five hundred and thirty-four questionnaires were filled in and the two finalists are a vacant lot opposite the City of London on the south bank of the Thames, Potter's Fields,

Norman Foster's sketch design The Minister for London, Nick for Potter's Fields is a 10-storey glass sphere that looks like a cross between a Sixties TV set and a soapdish. Will Alsop of Alsop and Stormer

Chamber. The roof would be raised snace the scheme needs to be viable to the developer. Both architects have designed stylish government buildings, Foster in Berlin and Alsop in Marseilles. But this ham-fisted exercise, while making financial sense, does them no favours.

Norman Foster and Will Alsop created exciting

government buildings in Europe. So why

Consider Victoria House, sitting on the eastern side of Bloomsbury Square in all its imperialistic glory. and built between 1925-32, it expresses the paternalism and pretentinusness of an insurance company with an imposing facade decked out with three-storey columns and a pediment. No matter that inside all is marble and fine woods. The message of the architecture is hardly user-friendly and accessible. It doesn't shout fun, community spirit, interactive, multicultural, democratic. It might be listed Grade 2 but in my book it's a

large veneered pod as an Assembly GLC occupied similar retro premises on the South Bank, but that's to accommodate the extra office irrelevant. Different era, different government. Converting the former offices of the Liverpool and Victoria Friendly Society, no matter how luxurious they might be, is a totally inappropriate solution to the lack of cash and lack of time (it is claimed it would be ready by mid 2000 to coincide with the elections). Asking an architect as bold as Alsop to tart up a pompous relic from another age Designed by Charles William Long is like asking Alexander McQueen to redesign all the sleeves in Vivi-

enne Westwood's suits. Ridiculous. The sheer arrogance of Raynsford's solution is amazing. You'd hardly ask Chris Ofili, this year's Turner Prize winner, to redesign tube trains or Sam Taylor-Wood to do Cherie's passport photos, would you? But politicians, sadly continue to be visual philistines. Their solutions are dictated by cash and ease of construction rather than any higher aesthetic values. Even their

pal Richard Rogers has moaned publicly that the project deserved a proper competition. You can sense the sheer desperation in Alsop's head, just looking at the design. Closing the road in front of the huilding and sticking glass offices and meeting rooms on legs above it is hardly ground-hreaking. He obviously bates the facade of Victoria House so much he's covering it up with screens. As for veneered pods, a "pod" is something that the Archigram group made a lot of in the Sixties, when architects from Nick Grimshaw to Cedric Price came up with sketch designs for living pods. sleeping pods, and service pods in the cities of the future. The "pod" is as passé as the Dome.

Architecture has moved on and is more complex and exciting than the plug-in, disposable culture of yesteryear. More importantly, the shape of a debating chamber for the new body is critical. This is the hub of the building where elected members. the press and the public all come together. Putting wood between two sbeets of glass is a textural rather than philosophic solution. As it is, the chamber looks like something that can be dismantled after 25 years when another government tires of the idea, just as Maggie tired of the GLC. Then it will be all too simple to turn Victoria House back into the

hotel it was once destined to be.



Victoria House: the proposed mayoral assembly chamber

Bloomsbury Square, it is claimed, like Victoria House, albeit pod-less. will be "revitalised" and become a What our Mayor needs is a brand "ceremonial open space". I worked new building that reflects our wonon the other side of the square for derful city, oot New Labour's threada year and always found it quite a debare election promises. And if it is lightful place to eat a sandwich. No. to be a soap-dish, then hold a proper London is already full of buildings competition first.

America – at any price

His humour may on occasion be tasteless, but 10 years after Holidays in Hell, it's still what PJ O'Rourke does best. By Mike Higgins



PJ O'Rourke on poverty: 'I rememember being hungry. For a day or two'

Countdown to Christmas on the Listening Post Hootie era back, with twelve masterful songs which reveal the many sides from bluegrass, rock and debut albam Piaces Gi You', this acclaimed singer songwiter has expanded her asying heartfelt tribute to bel falk-oriented roots are supporting the Corrs "acoustic rock 'n' soul" to a unbest ray of sousbine. For your nearest store call $0541\ 525\ 520$

baccy-chewin' brawler when they meet Patrick James O'Rourke. Hunter S Thompson with a better haircut, perhaps. When, as in my case too, a polite, smart, middleaged American author offers them tea (and nothing stronger), there's a slight sense of betrayal. What? No half-drained Jack Daniels bottles lying around? In truth, O'Rourke ceased years ago to

bear much resemblance to the no-nonsense foreign correspondent who emerged from the pages of Holidays in Hell, the book which made his name outside the States in the late Eighties. He's certainly conservative, but less wilful in person than his wise-cracking literary alter-ego. And his new book, Eat the Rich, continues O'Rourke's desire to tackle ever bigger issues. This time, it's economics, which he declares is "nine-tenths common sense and the rest of it no one understands".

It's worrying to consider how serious O'Rourke might take himself, though. He is good company, for sure. Yes, he does find his own jokes amusing, but that's understandable because, by and large, they are. The trouble is his tone. One minute he's waxing serious, the next he's teasing his own solemnity with ironic glee. He uses the same trick when he writes. When I ask him, for instance, if the Government is hypocritical to seek the prosecution of General Pinochet while conducting relations with the current Chinese regime, O'Rourke talks sagely about the difficult decisions that face Tony Blair - and then hoots in derision: "Yeah, you've just given Hong Kong back to a pack of murderous assholes!" Which side of the 50-year-old, Irish-American does he want you to remember?

A graduate of both National Lampoon and Rolling Stone magazine, he doesn't seem content merely to poke fun any more. Has the old reactionary become, dare I say it, "responsible"? "Oh, I wouldn't say responsible. More substantive. There were only so many times that I could be the innocent abroad and say: 'Oh, gosh, isn't this confusing?

These days, O'Rourke's globe-trotting investigations tend to arrive at one hroad conclusion - that individuals are best left nothing new to say about capitalism or so-

INTERVIEWERS EXPECT a rootin', tootin', to their own devices. For instance, a previous book, Parliament of Whores, reck-oned the US government a bunch of interfering busybodies. Eat the Rich: A Treatise on Economics, meanwhile, takes in Tanzania, Cuba, Wall Street, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Russia and Sweden in its attempt to see why "some places prosper while others just suck". To his credit, he concludes that laissez-faire economic policy isn't the only solution - the rule of law is important too. I don't think Milton Fried-

man need lose any sleep. If his economics credentials aren't up to much, at least O'Rourke, very well-off thank you at the moment, was once poor. Until he looked through his mother's papers about 10 years ago, though, he hadn't realised just how broke the O'Rourkes had been. "But I found out that we were actu-

He does find his own iokes amusing, but that's understandable because, by and large, they are

ally under the poverty line in the US." As a scholarship boy at university in Ohio and then on a fellowship at Johns Hopkins University, O'Rourke says he got by. "When graduate school was over, I was on my own and I was really broke there a couple of times. I remember being hungry - briefly, for a day or two."

After graduate school, O'Rourke rose through the ranks at National Lampoon, eventually landing a job at Rolling Stone as their international affairs desk chief. There, he struck the literary pose he's maintained in his books ever since - "the stupid American" who pitches up in a foreign country and cracks a few jokes at the expense of its customs, culture and people. It made for a raucous account of the world's trouble spots in Holidays in Hell, and the formula is much the same today.

As his horizons expand, though, some of O'Rourke's jokes look a little narrowminded. In Eat the Rich, he admits he has

cialism, and some of his one liners are no more than Republican jibes, particularly concerning that socialist thorn in the US's side, Cuba. Elsewhere, he simply oversteps the mark: "The Hong Kong stock market," he quips at one point, "took a TWA Flight 800." "One wouldn't make fun of the victims of a mud-slide in Nicaragua," O'Rourke responds. "One might make fun of the corrupt people who were stuffing all the aid money in their pockets. And you certainly can repeat the black jokes that people in awful circumstances make themselves."

Tasteless they occasionally may be, but O'Rourke's jokes are still what he does best. The more chaotic the country, the better his black humour serves him, as in Eat the Rich's chapter on Albania. By contrast, the theorising with which he peppers his travelogue reads like "Friedman Made Easy". Throughout the book, though, you get the impression that the most fundamental problem common to Tanzania, Cuba and Albania is quite simple - they're not the US. "There aren't many large, multinational, multi-ethnic countries that even half-work," he says. "Considering that it's made up of 250 million people, none of them from the same sort of places and all of whom loathe each other, it's amazing that the US isn't a whole lot worse than it is." Surely "the American fanaticism for turning everything harmless and bland", as noted by O'Rourke himself, is a high price to pay for social harmony and economic success. "It would seem too high a price, sitting here in London. If we were sitting

in Bosnia, we might not think so." O'Rourke thinks his travelling days are over A one-year-old daughter and a marriage not much older have dictated the subject of his next book: a history of his home town Toledo. One final question, though: does he give money to beggars? "To charity, yes, but to beggars, not very often," reflects the respectable O'Rourke. Then there's a flash of the O'Rourke of old: "Then again, there's a certain kind of old drunk whom you give a buck to only if he promises to spend it on a bottle of whiskey ... "

Eat the Rich: A Treatise on Economics' (Picador), £16.99

Melting into mediocrity

THE ONLY similarity between snow and cotton wool is that they're both white. The only similarity between the animated him of Raymon Briggs's The Snowman and

this musical is-well, the music. As far as the snow goes, they've used a kind of netting a hit like an all-over tutu. But otherwise, Bill Alexander's production is low on ideas.

He relies heavily on Howard Blake's much-loved score, which prompts unfavourable comparisons. At best, it's a pale imitation of the film; at worst, it's just slavish.

The Boy takes the Snowman all very laborious. into his house and shows him

MUSICAL THE SNOWMAN PEACOCK THEATRE

LONDON

his world. The same jokes were there, plus a few new dance numbers thrown in (a limboing pineapple, a tangoing teddy). An odd design decision makes the furniture oversized once the Snowman is alive, even though it was the normal size before. Some of it is very naturalistic. such as a real metal sink spouting sawn off copper pipes. Too many changes of scene make it



'The Snowman': all very laborious

half, things seem to be taking off when Snowman and Boy soar into the air. A little bit of magic certainly stirs the air. But A version of this review apany Christmas show worth its Towards the end of the first salt will have actors on wires

before too long. Once they're up there, the ideas run out again.

The Snowman stage ver-

sion should really be a ballet. l ne secono nau is much more fun. Here you have dancing snowmen in kilts and cowboy suits, penguins, reindeer, and Father Christmas himself. Robert North's choreography has a certain charm.

Children could do worse than this for their Christmas outing - hut I've a feeling they could do better.

peared in later editions of yes-

Rib-tickling trouble at mill

AS THEY were saying before they were so rudely interrupted... Helena Kaut-Howson's production of Hindle Wakes was running at the Royal Ex-change Theatre when the IRA blasted the centre of Manchester apart in 1996. So it is a fine symbolic gesture of defiance that the annulled show now bounces back to inaugurate the splendidly rebuilt and refurbished venue, which now boasts additional studio space.

It is all the more fitting because Stanley Houghton's 1912 comedy is set among the Lancashire cotton mill magnates who would have frequented this vast domed edifice, and the play itself turns on a spirited refusal to be intimidated.

Still looking like a bizarre arachnoid spaceship on a timetravel mission, the main theatre-in-the-round is much the same huilding-within-abuilding that it was before. It is

THEATRE HINDLE WAKES ROYAL EXCHANGE MANCHESTER

the enveloping ambience that has dramatically altered. Gone is the rather gloomy atmosphere of a cultural cathedral: the play now has the feel of a stylish, seductively lit, cultural mall. And, of course, conversation: this theatre must have one of the most expansive areas for interval milling and

Despite being something of a period piece, Hindle Walces continues to offer talkingpoints. A proto-feminist play, it explores the comic fall-out after the son of a cotton tycoon and Fanny Hawthorn, a headstrong mill lass, enjoy a dirty weekend in Llandudno. His parents are divided on what should be done, Played by Sue

> THE CRITICAL CONDITION

mulling in the world.

nouveou riche swank and mischievous humanity, the mother is determined that he will marry his well connected flancée. All gritty integrity and underlying unease, his father (the excellent Ewan Hooper) is equally adamant that he will do the decent thing by Fanny, who is the daughter of an old work mate (the delightfully gentle Colin Prockter) from his preplutocratic days.

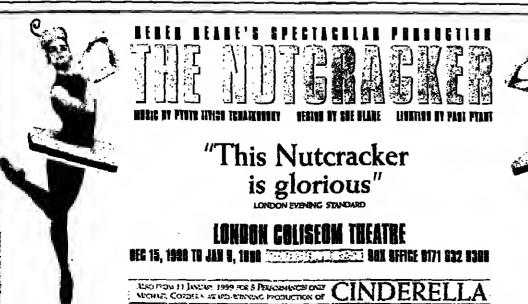
Houghton shows how, in the ludicrously labyrinthine deliberations that ensue, nobody thinks to consult the feelings of Claire Rushbrook's impressively forthright Fanny, who sits at an angle to everyone else, defiantly clad in her weaver's shawl. The play's attack on double standards extends, shockingly for the era, to Fanny's announcing that sex without love isn't a male preserve. If she was just a fling for

Johnston with a lovely mix of him, what makes him think he was anything more for her?

I could have done without the little model mills and their smoking chimneys which surround the action. Nor could I work out why everything had been painted a ghostly shade of grey. But the warmth and conviction of the company are terrific, with a lanky, amusingly sheepish Pearce Quigley timing the naiveties and circumspect sincerities of the toff son in a

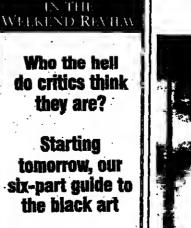
surprising comic fashion. Reinforcing the sense that it is an apt choice, the play sometimes seems to be alluding to the present celebratory circumstances. Certainly when the magnate's father declares that: "If it is the finest in Lancashire and Yorkshire then it goes without saying that it is the finest in England", the laughter had an understandably con-

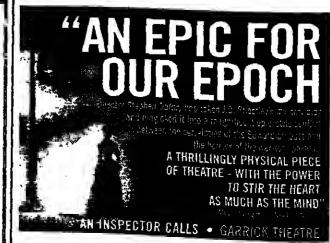
PAUL TAYLOR



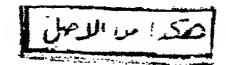


حكذا من الاحل





AY REVIEW



MUSIC

Mistletoe and whine

Let celebrated singer-songwriter John Shuttleworth be your guide to the special world of the Christmas Number One. You'll wish it could be Christmas every day. With James McNair

mas single time rolls around, 'tis for dubious sheer frivolity. As songwriters endeavour to weave words such as "Santa", "Christmas tree" and "lonely" into new concept titles, the record-buying public goes bonkers, and artists stigmatised by age, minor-celeb-rity or simple lack of talent crawl out of the woodwork to battle with pop's big guns. Inevitably, there will be nov-

elty songs. Who could forget The Goodies "Father Christmas Do Not Touch Me", or Benny Hill's Christmas '71 chart-topper "Ernie"? Equally prevalent, it seems, are songs that play on the emotions of the festive season's romantically challenged ("Lonely This Christmas"), songs for kiddies ("Wombling Merry Christmas", and songs for the religious ("Saviour's Day", "Mary's Boy Child"). And as we burtle towards Santa's 2000th delivery, you can't belp noticing that it's still the hits of Christmas long past (Slade, Wizard, McCartney, etc) which dominate the festive airwaves. And wbo better to make sense of all his than Sheffield-based singerongwriter and former security guard, John Sbuttleworth?

What makes a good Christmas

Well, sleigh bells, And children. Don't bring the childreo in too



John Shuttleworth: 'The right sentiment is important'

Yoko's "Merry Christmas (War Is Over)". I don't think John and Yoko would bave held mucb truck with children in a playgroup situation at the time, though. They were commies, weren't they? Used to stay in bed soon, though - just keep them for all the time. Ideally, a good

song does that, as does John and a reference to a baby in a manger, but only if it fits. "Manger" only rhymes with "stranger", and you doo't want strangers in your house over Christmas, do you? As my song "The Christmas Orphan" says: "Christmas is a time for the

very important, in fact. Try listening to Adam Faith's "Lonely Pup (In a Christmas Shop)".

Jonah Louie's "Stop the Cavalry" has a lovely military feel, and I love marching round the Christmas tree in time. But there's a problem there, and I'm family/but for an orphan how can thwarted in me mission because

the end choruses. The Wizard Christmas track should include it be?" The right sentiment is there's no room at the back. I get trapped between the radiator and the tree and me sweater gets caught on the hranches. I don't stop marching, though - I just mark time till me wife Mary comes to free me.

Wizard's "I Wish It Could Be Christmas Every Day" is another favourite. It's a nice senti-

ment, and I like the way Roy Wood puts on that falsetto when he says "C'mon everyhody!" It sounds a bit like Pluto's voice, doesn't it? Lovely.

The limited success of bis

own Christmas songs... I wanted Sir Cliff to do a cover version of "The Christmas Orphan" as a follow-up to 'Saviour's Day', but he was playing tennis with Sue Barker and I couldn't track him down. I asked the club if there was a contact number for him in his locker, but they thought that I was being a hit presumptuous, you know. Maybe I was just a bit late with me pitch; Christmas records have to be done by June. Then again, Sir Cliff's been under a lot of pressure to produce another hit. That's probably why he's caved in and grown a beard. I also wrote "Karen's Tangerine", which was based on a true story about my little girl's henevolences at Christmas. Her plan was to deliver a segment of the orange in her stocking to each needy African village. Looking back, it all seems a hit fanciful.

How John will be spending this Christmas...

It'll just be me, Mary and the kids. To be honest I tend to get a bit depressed around 4 o'clock. With the turkey dinner and the Quality Street churning around in your tummy you start to feel a bit queasy, don't you? Sometimes I go out for a walk in me slippers. The place is just like a ghost town - there's nobody on

The Three Degrees/ Alien

Voices: 'Last Christmas'

number one, but this is

LYRIC SHEETS MARTIN NEWELL

People who are tired of Alanis Morissette's angst can now contact The Alanis Morissette Lyric Generator This Internet device (www.brunching.com) allows the user to punch in their own emotional problems and have them set to Alanis's music

Alanis More-upset



Is it a paraffin greenhouse heater? A moped fuelled on cow excreta? How many miles will it do to a litre? **Alanis Morissette**

Is it a portable trouser-press? A seventeenth-century birthing dress?

A Luxembourgian water cress? **Alanis Morissette**

A caravan no longer sold? A French Canadian wrestling hold? A fridge which keeps bacteria cold? **Alanis Morissette**

No. Alanis Morissette Is like the sort of noise you get While waiting with a wounded pet Before arrival of the vet.

It rants, it rails, it shricks and squeals And while your tooth enamel peels It tells you how fed-up it feels **Alanis Morissette**

Like Joni Mitchell's spoilt niece or something out on day-release Too much of it, you call the police Alanis Morissette

When fifth-form angst as poetry Meets well-paid music therapy You get the lot on one CD Alanis Morissette

JOHN'S CHRISTMAS CHOICE '98

🚵e Spice Girls: 'Goodbye' Come lovely barmonies bere, but not as lush as we've come to expect. They're missing somebody though, aren't they? They tend to sing in unison, but it's tricky doing harmonies if you're not a good singer. They are, though. They're very good."

Chef: 'Chocolate Salty Balls' "This gets my tip for this vests number one. It's a loves, bouney tune, and it's instructive too, because it

nice recipe alternative Christmas dessert Cbef's got a sleazy,

night-club kind of voice – a bit like Yogi Bear."

Slade: 'Merry Xmas Everybody' !Remix '98) "Initially, I thought this was "Popcorn" by Hot Butter. Some readers won't

remember that - it was a late- Drummer Boy" by David Sixties fun track. Noddy's voice seems to be mixed a bit quiet, and it's normally very strident. I prefer the original this version hasn't eveo got the verse lyrics. I also notice an Orchestral Manoeuvres In the Dark influence, and I welcome that. I used to like

the way that lad swung his arms - in a military way. It's fascinating, the way that the military thing comes through at Christmas: McCartney's "Pipes Of Peace", "Little

Bowie and Bing Crosby... Jesus wasn't in the army, though, was be? Herod's men were, but that was later."

Alberta: Yo-Yo Boy' "I seem to have misplaced this one - I think it might have gone home with my grand-niece Michela. It's got a nice feel though, and I wouldn't write it off. You only have to think of Mr Blobby's number one in '93 to realise people like to buy something different at Christmas."

Bewitched: To Yon I Belong' "This sounds just like the Spice Girls, but with the

right quota of harmonies. Loved the soaring pan pipes - that's number 65 on my keyboard; don't know what it is on theirs. Bit soppy, though. I expected a hit more teenage angst. Perhaps they should have got in Puff Daddy as guest vocalist."

excellent. Lovely, ebullient rhythm - again akin to a military two-step. Just the kind of thing we've come to expect from Prince Charles' favourite band." John Shuttleworth, aka

comedian Graham Fellows, is on tour in Britain from January 16-March 22. Tel: 0171-287 5010 for details

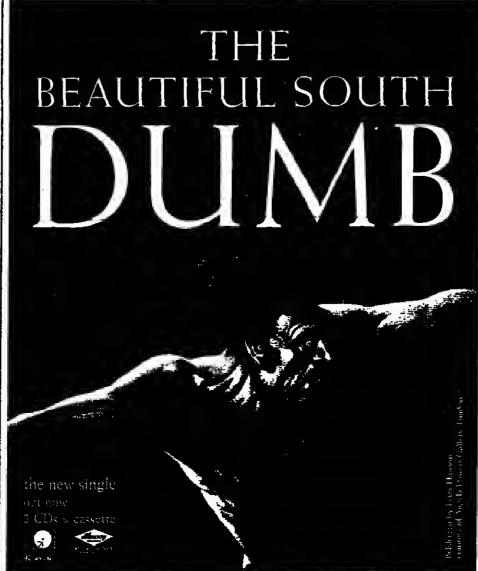


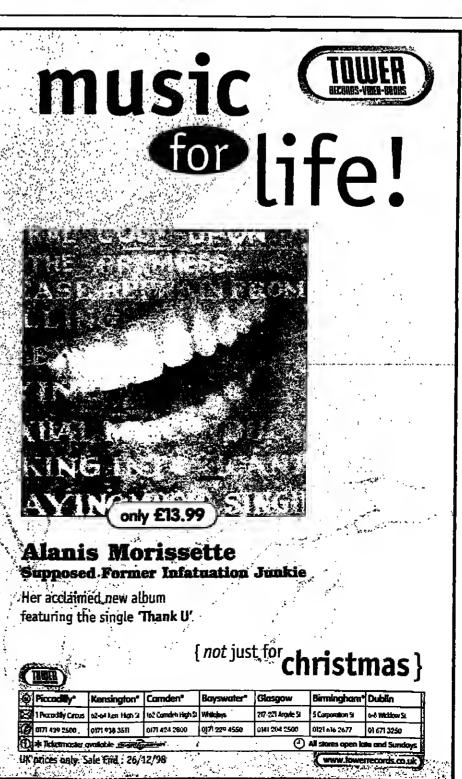
SLEEVE NOTES

CELEBRITIES INTO politics will always go. Keith Hellawell, the drugs czar, recently invited Robbie Williams to join an anti-drugs campaign. This week, Robbie stares out from the cover of The Face with shadows under his eyes and a

IN A recent interview with C4, Radiohead's Thom Yorke attacked the cliches of celebrity. hloody nose, accompanied by the caption "Want Some?". In-Amnesty International gig out Amnesty International gig out

side, he reveals that be once of guilt: "Radiohead came out took beroin, and last did a line of the grunge culture of comof coke about three weeks ago. plaint. It's dawned on us that our problems are irrelevant. It's offensive to have them rammed down your throat on MTV." He's happy using his fame to help Amnesty: "I don't really use it for anything else." JENNIFER RODGER





THIS WEEK'S ALBUM RELEASES

REVIEWED BY ANDY GILL



T-MODEL FORD

You Better Keep Still Fat Possum

I KNOW precious little about T-Model dance or dalliance. And the best way T-Ford except that he's quite old, quite black, and by the sound of it, quite fond of a drink. Judging by the cover shot of this, his secood album, and the explanatory sleeve quote lifted from the pulp-noir novelist Jim Thompson, be's not a man to be messed with, either: if T-Model tells you You Better Keep Still, then I'd imagine you might not move for a while, for fear of not moving for a much longer while.

Mercifully, such prohibitions are not really a consideration on You Better Keep Still, the best of the latest batch of releases from Fat Possum Records, the Mississippibased bome for distressed bluesfolk. Raw and hairy, it barrels along like a runaway train, sweeping the listener up as it rides roughshod over polite blues conventions.

Model himself isn't sure where it's going, eyes blearily fixed upon the next drink, or if it's going to end at all.

Model knows to get happy is to lose himself in the hypootic throb of something like "To the Left To the Right", a minimalist, shamanic expression of pure exhilaration. "Here Comes Papa" is similar in ap-proach, a primal grind that just rolls over and over, a bulldozer of blnes.

It's not all full-on minimalist boogle bere, though: Ford has a nice line in laidback blues-raps such as "We Don't Under-stand", a gentle JJ Cale-style sway supporting a semi-audible story. In his quieter moods Ford can be just as gripping, as in "Look What All You Got", a strange, cyclical blues in the Lightnin Hopkins style with a metre and direction all its own - at times, it sounds as if even T-



BUSTA RHYMES Extinction Level Event

IT'S BEEN a dismal year for hip-hop, with virtually every name performer from Snoop Dogg to Method Man hacking out contemptuously substandard fare. Busta Rhymes is no exception: this album finds him on pseudo-apocalyptic auto-pilot, barely bothering to work up a decent groove, and more than happy to just rattle off a bunch of American place-names or ask the ladies at the back to say "Hooo-ooo", in lieu of actually writing a lyric. The general level of invention can be gauged from "This Means War!!", the trumpeted collaboration with Ozzy Osbourne, which to all intents and purposes is simply "Iron Man" with a bit of babble over the top. Then again, we shouldn't be too surprised: this is, after all, a man so bereft of imagination he even draws inspiration from a film as vacuously sentimental as Deep Impact, whose producers vainly tried to foist the catch-phrase Extinction Level Event upon an unimpressed world.



VARIOUS ARTISTS Modulations Calpininha

SUBTITLED "CINEMA for the ear", Modulations is the soundtrack to a documentary about the rise of electronic music, from the measured fascist glamour of "I Feel Love", via Afrika Bam-baataa's transmutation of Kraftwerk into "Planet Rock", on to our present level of synthi-saturation, as represented by the jittery jungle of Goldie's "The Shadow". Along the way, most of the req-uisite boxes are ticked, but, apart from the beautiful arctic wasteland of Ryoji Ikeda's "Luxus 1-3", there's barely any representation of the more abstract style of synthesiser soundscaping on Modulations, which is ultimately too fascinated by the form's rhythmic possibilities alone. Nor is there any place here for the true pioneers of electronic music. experimentalists such as Morton Subotnik Ilhan Mimaroglu and Pierre Henry, who paved the way for all today's supposed cutting-edge developments. Maybe on Volume 2?



SIZZLA Kalonji

AS THE "slacker" style has dwindled away, Sizzla's star has risen to offer Jamaican youth something more than the dead-end prospect of accommodating, big-bottomed girls and dimwit bomo-pbobia. Tracks like "Long Journey Bad Storm" and "Saturated" are the most effective rastafarian sermons in some time, real fire-and-brimstone stuff to excoriate the unbelievers, with a particular emphasis on purity and African heritage. His Afrocentrism adds a new steel to Sizzla's style: proud and passionately political, his more militant raps owe as much to Fela Kuti as to his Jamaican forerunners. Indeed, when I last checked, Sizzla was the only pop performer currently active in the Western world openly advocating wholesale revolution. At least, the only one with any kind of audience. Kalonji offers a clever union of rural and urban sensibilities which, while criticising the present situation, points to a more positive future.

I'M SURE I SAW THEM ON A POSTER...

A REGULAR ROUND-UP OF BANDS YOU WON'T HAVE SEEN ON 'TOP OF THE POPS'



RACHID Prototype Universal

GREAT THINGS are expected of Rachid, the multi-talented son of Ronald "Kool" Bell, and this impressively crafted debut album pulls out all the stops in attempting to fulfill those expectations. Heavily Prince influenced, he acknowledges no boundaries to his music, slipping within the space of a single track between funk, drum'n bass and rock, topping everything off with the kind of melismatic soul crooning that comes from years of Sundays in a Baptist congregation. Religion naturally figures beavily in some songs, but the most striking thing about Rachid is the oddly masochistic cast to his lyrics, which characterise love variously as evil, an infection, and a destroyer. Like all would-be soul geniuses - hello, Ter-ence Trent D'Arby - Rachid frequently falls into the twin traps of over-elaboration and over-emoting in his desperation to convince listeners of his greatness, but there's enough individuality in Prototype to carry him through.

RIFFS

THE FIRST AND LAST RECORDS BOUGHT BY THE SHAMEN'S MR C

First record Dan Hartman: 'Instant Replay' A CHEESY disco tune from the seventies, that cost 50p from Chapel Street Market in Islington. It wasn't dear to me, though I recall it played at school discos. At 13, I went through a big disco stage and would go to pubs along Hackney Road. I was into everything from Earth Wind & Fire to electro. Garage is exactly the same as disco, only it uses modern technology. The first important crossover record was "Cutting Herble" on VEntertainment: it sampled

Herbie Hancock's "Rockit", a

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year or so after it came out. I was a body popper, but when it moved to breakdancing, I decided to pick up the microphone to become an MC.

Last record Andy Roberts: 'Mr Roberts' Neighbourhood' (Aquarins) WHENEVER I go record shopping, I buy a load. I listen to the records, go to the distributors. This record starts off with a nice bell noise on a fast drum loop. Then the track breaks down to just bells for 32 bars. It holds you until the bass kicks in, with nice chord stabs. very nice melodies. It's quite a beautiful number. I don't like techno to be minimal and bland. This is quite deep. I would play it late in the night; it is not one to jump about to, but it bas got

sophistication and trippiness.

JENNIFER RODGER

THESE DAYS, indie bands have to CREEPER LAGOON work hard to look the part. Some BARFLY, CAMDEN, LONDON iook as if they have steadfastly starved themselves in order to

achieve that sunken-chested, I-

was-bullied-at-school look, while

others might have bunted far and

wide for the ugliest in retro attire.

But Creeper Lagoon are the real

thing. Their hand-me-down shirts

and saggy slacks are enough to

make Jarvis Cocker blush, while

their school-boy geekiness is

here hut you guys are OK," mumbled the singer after a

revealed in unadulterated fear.

couple of songs. You could hear

tremors in his voice. But as their

We were all afraid of coming

ONE LADY OWNER WATER RATS THEATRE KING'S CROSS, LONDON

> WITCHMAN ASTORIA, LONDON

inspired considerably more confidence. Creeper Lagoon take you back to the youthful, pre-Britpop era of Dinosaur Jnr and Pavement. Their wailing guitars are balanced by sweet, folky melodies and lyrics that brim with

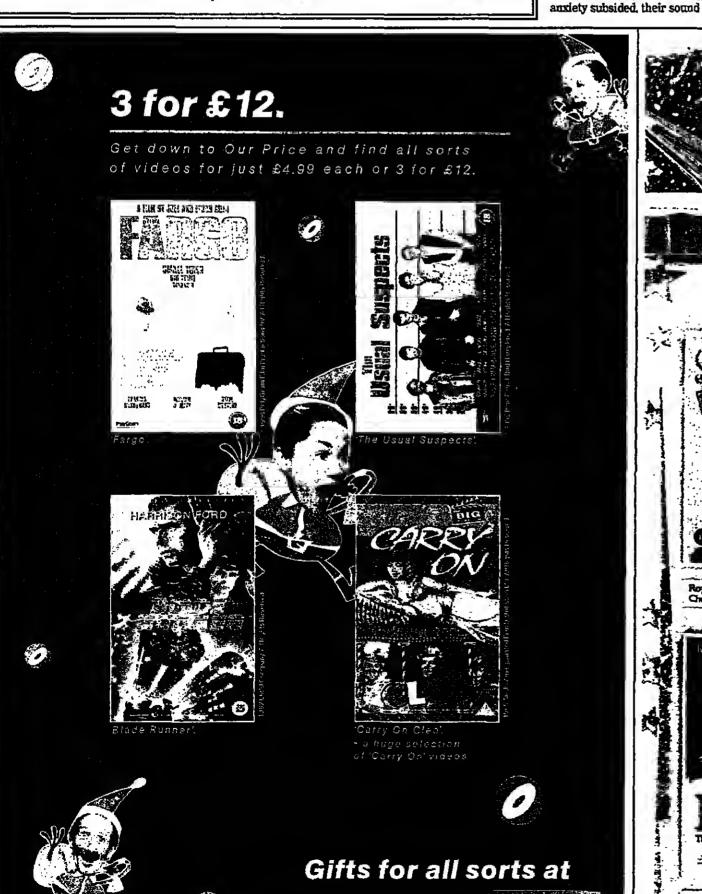
teenage whimsy. But most impressive of all is their unbridled energy. For sheer effort, this band deserve to be famous.

I was lucky to emerge alive from One Lady Owner's gig after squeezing myself through the scrum at the door. They are Creabon's latest bot property, discovered by the third Gallagher brother, Paul. They are essentially a souped-up Goth band, and are an interesting departure from the current wave of Oasis imitators. But any fascination with them must surely revolve around their palpable insanity. Their drummer twitched like a tartrazine-fuelled child; their shaven-headed vocalist would have looked more

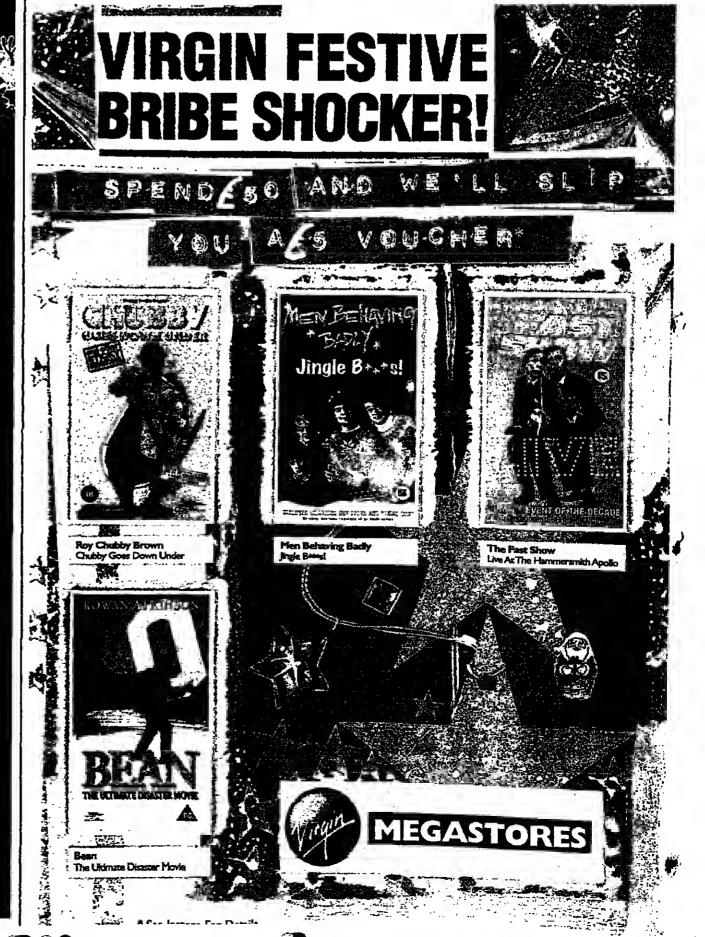
at bome in a Scandinavian death metal act.

If ever the axiom "intelligent drum'n'bass" was intended for an act, it is Witchman. This threepiece faced a particularly unforgiving crowd as the support act for industrial giants Front 242, but even out of familiar dance territory, they still managed to suffuse the Astoria with eerie hreak-beats. A guitarist, a DJ and a gadget man generated stark soundscapes flesbed out with unsettling rhythms. Such tinkering recalls Aphex Twin's hrighter moments with glimpses of danceable beats and distortions to make your pulse race.

FIONA STURGES



(**)**





Y REVIEW

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The State

Giant friendly mice on stage and screen

Save your prayers till the decade after. Then visit Duran Duran's hometown to watch them prance around a large white blob. By Steven Poole

DURAN DURAN had a problem with their balls. After a deafening tectonic rumble, accompanied by luminous shafts piercing a starry black cloth, the drapery fell to reveal an oddly themed stage set, with a giant clam shell for the drummer and two enormous white balls on either flank. It turned out that these albioo spheres were perfect for

projecting blinky eyeballs and funloving amoebas oo to, until one of them started deflating during a hideously messy version of "The Reflex", and after some desultory attempt to restore the ball to its plump splendour, it was dragged off the stage in sorry detumescence.

It would be invidious to make of

his a metaphor for Duran Duran's erformance, bowever, because this opening night of their Christmas arena tour was a triumph. Le Bon, dapper in suit and collar, did start off slightly nervously. At one point, after mopping his brow with his forearm, be regarded the lofted limb as if it modern, so lovingly unmodernised.

jerking it out to the side at three the end. It wasn't done with real feelthe old camp fluency gradually re-

heartedly decided to run it through On Film" or "Planet Earth", the sura New Romantic dance gesture: real poetry of "Hungry Like the Wolf" ("I smell like I sound"; disdifferent angles, cocking his wrist at cuss), the stupidly thrilling nonsense of "Wild Boys" - all pumped ing. He complained about a "little" out with glorious abandon, with Le black fish" in his glass of water. But Bon's muscular yowl in perfect tune. The only problem was little turned, until Le Bon was prancing Warren, the bald, sunglassed gui-

Nick Rhodes remains demonically good at standing still behind his synthesisers

round in rosy swirls of light, doing tarist who seemed to have misthat turn-around-and-look-surprised takenly stretched a pair of opaque to-see-the-audience-over-your-other-Rhodes, meanwhile, remains demonically good at standing still behind his synthesisers, only bending occasionally to sbow off his celebrated blond fringe at fetching angles. And the music? So beautifully

black tights over his swollen torso. sboulder thing with aplomb. Nick and insisted on covering lots of songs in childisb, heavy-metal scrawls, like someooe painting window frames very badly, leaving brush-strokes all over the glass.

But the kids didn't mind. That's partly, of course, because there were no kids, apart from the odd vomiting come to Birmingham.

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were an alien extrusion and half. The glamorous future-funk of "Girls teenager. When the lighters came out for "Save a Prayer", they undulated thinly, like a critically eodangered species of firefly. Most ex-Durannies clearly gave up smoking a long time ago, after dropping babies and moving to the suburbs.

Duran have had so many comebacks that to ask for another might seem greedy. They played a few new songs, which tried to be spiky, but the Metallica-noise breakbeats and scarily barked verses couldn't stop the the singalong choruses breaking through, like giant, friendly mice darting through a skirting-board made up of dodgy old samples.

They ended with "Careless Mem ory" and "Rio". Simon Le Bon did a crazy underwater swimmingdance, Nick Rhodes mysteriously controlled his synthesiser by manipulating thin air, and suddeoly Duran Duran were back, songs once more had tunes of sublime, wilful grandeur, and Christmas had



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MGMORE

ENTERTAINMENT: CONCERTS, THEATRE, WHAT'S ON









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Farewell to that sinking feeling,

The Titanic soundtrack is the year's best-selling 'classical' CD. But don't jump for the lifeboat just yet: here are our critics' top discs of 1998

AS IF the fact that this year's bestselling "classical" release was James Horner's soundtrack to Titanic weren't bad enough, along comes news that they've pulled the plug on Collins Classics. One of the few labels committed to recording new British music, including now truncated editions of Britten, Birtwistle and Maxwell Davies, it also launched a few careers,

including that of pianist Joanna MacGregor.

At least there's still NMC. The newmusic label has just won a Gramophone Award for its marvellously analytical recording of Birtwistle's legendarily opaque opera, The Mask of Orpheus (see below), and would surely have won another for its history-making premiere recording of the Elgar/Payne Symphony

No 3, were it not for the Machiavellian workings of the voting system.

As for MacGregor, next week she launches her own record label, SoundCircus, with three new releases including her own version of Cage's Sonatas and Interludes for Prepared Piano and a debut disc by the acclaimed young jazz pianist Nikki Yeoh. How's that for girl power?

Going one better, another group of label-less artists, led by pianist Peter Donohoe and conductor David Atherton, have decided to bypass the record industry altogether by making themselves available on the Net. Dial up www.gmn.com and you can tune in to an ever-growing selection of specially recorded new live performances. or even compile your own custom-made

CD from tracks of your choice.

So, as the multinationals endlessly pillage and repackage their archives and gear themselves up to trying to sell us the same old albums all over again on DVD, many artists are beginning to discover that they can well do without the middlemen and this year's centenary of the gramophone may well prove to have been the end of an era.

Harrison Birtwistle: The Mask of Orpheus BBC Symphony Orchestra/Andrew Davis. Martyn Brabbins and soloists NMC D050 (3-CD set)

THOUGH IT was released at the end of 1997, the NMC premiere recording Birtwistle's The

Mask of Orpheus, has to be my choice for the year in which it had its full impact. No enthusiast of this composer's work will its radical retellings of the myth of have wanted to be without this Orpheus.

opus. Those persuaded by the Hecklers and other anti-modernists that such music lacks the human dimensions of passion and poetry should also check it out. Though its challenges should not be underestimated, this opera incorporates music of utterly compelling beauty and sheer elemental force into

KEITH POTTER

JS Bach: Goldberg Variations Rosalyn Tureck (piano) DG 459 599-2 (2 discs)

searing account of his magnum

ROSALAN TURECK has devoted her inspiration to the young Glenn 50 year career to JS Bach, and an Gould, For several years there had anti-Romantic style of playing his been no studio recordings by her, but music, whether on harpsichord or last March, at 83, she recorded one piano. Paradoxically, she remains a of Bach's greatest sets of variations pianist in the grand Romanlic and showed all her old technical tradition, and it is her special gift to command, and a rich variety of project Bach's music LARGE that imaginative response. Magnificent. has made her unique. She was an

ADRIAN JACK

Wagner: Wesendonk-Lleder, Tristan und Isolde etc Deutsches Symphony Orchestra/Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau/Julia Varady Orteo C 467 981 A

A POWERFUL antidote to the unpalatable squalling that so often passes for singing these

days. Julia Varady invests Isolde's that you will have encountered a "Liebestod" with great tenderness: more inwardly compelling "Immoit is little wonder that Lorin Maazel lation Scene", certainly not from the thought her an ideal candidate for last 30 years. a 1999 revival of Tristan und Isolde.

The five "Tristanian" Wesendonk songs are at once intimate, intense and individual: heart and bead are in total accord, with discreet support from the German Symphony Orchestra under Varady's husband, Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau. I doubt

ROB COWAN

Il Combattimento di Tancredi e Clorinda

London in March (BBC2 broad-Aiden's production, but also in Rinaldo Alessandrini's musical direchon. Alessandrini's acute sense of drama underpins his Monteverdi

WELSH NATIONAL Opera's staging recordings, the latest of which superbly captures the work's bluesy lyricism and its extraordinary onocasts it over Christmas), showed bow matopoeia: you can all but smell the modern Monteverdi, opera's first horses, feel the characters' bruising great composer, remains. The punch-up. Composers looking to modernity lay not only in David renew opera would do well to put stead to the subtle reticence of

Chopin: Piano Concerto No 1; Fantaisie Op 49 etc Chamber Orchestra of Europe/Emmanuel Krivine/Maria João Pires Deutsche Grammophon 457 585-2

Maria João Pires, who gives Chopin's Fantaisie a radical reinterpretation

I love about her playing: her style is aside Wagnerian hubris, and turn in- always perfectly matched to the matter in hand.

NICK KIMBERLEY than feminine, as against Krivine's quisitely applied.

SOME CRITICS find this Portuguese tender backdrop she paints the planist too mannered. That's what stage with beauty. Her slow-move- Fantaisie to a radical reinterpretment tempo in the concerto seems ation, taking us through a almost static, and the descending chiaroscuro landscape; in the awaited - honours its promise of

Maria João Pires subjects the

Czeslaw Marek: The Orchestral Works, Vols 2 and 3 The Philharmonia Orchestra and Chorus/Gary Brain/Elzbieta Szmytka Koch Schwann 3-6440-2 and 3-6441-2

MAREK WAS born in Poland in 1891, moved to Switzerland in 1915, and died in 1985, just two weeks before

I arrived to visit him. When I got hold of the acores of his rich, late-Romantic music a bour in Paris. The results have great discovery. exceeded my most extravagant

hopes. Vol 1, with the overwhelming 35-minute "Sinfonia", won a prize last year: Vol 2, out at the beginning of this year, has the heartwarming "Serenade" for violin and orchestra; and Vol 3, recently released, contains two cyclea of Polish folk-music settings that sparkle; they are heautifully sung by Elzbieta Szmytfew years later, I lugged them to the conductor Gary Brain, then a neigh-

MARTIN ANDERSON

Edgard Varese: The Complete Works Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, ASKO Ensemble/Riccardo Chailly Decca 460 208-2; two CDs

CATACLYSMIC UPHEAVALS, kalei- uscatingly delivered under Chailly's That's Amériques, like Stravinsky's Rite reset against an apocalyptic New York skyline rent by siren calls. The French composer was always a land of free sounds long before he after one performance. sailed for the New World in 1915. Cor-

doscopic cascades of colour, great committed direction, here is his encontinental shifts of raw rhythm. tire, output (all 150 minutes' worth), including a recording of the most unlikely plece he ever wrote: a Broadway dance number for Burgess (The Penguin) Meredith. Happy as an American at heart, dreaming of Larry the show was called: it closed

MARK PAPPENHEIM

Entartete Musik: A Documentation in Sound Eine POOL Musikproduction GmbH, Berlin 65023AV (4CDs)

THIS FOUR-CD set is utterly astounding, a chilling encapsulation of the horrors of Nazi times. In 1939, an exhib-

ibon, notoriously entitled "Entartete Musik" was mounted in Düsseldorf to expose examples of "un-Ger-

"degenerate" art. In 1988, a recon-

duced, augmented to include other material. These four discs are the sound-track. The range is buge: from the sublime (Bruckner, Schnabel) to the ridiculous (hymns glorifying Nazi ideology) via the horrifying (Karl Böhm's speech in support of the Anschluss). Hitler. Goebbels, Thomas Mann, Klemman" music. Visitors could press but- perer are all translated in the actons to hear examples of this companying booklets.

struction of the exhibition was pro-

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Dvorak: Rusalka Czech Philharmonic/Mackerras/Fleming/Heppner

WAGNER CASTS his long, tall chivalric splendour, its distinctive shadow but Dvorak's benevolence colourations suggestive of a Bo-By the light of the silvery moon. Most chords hang in the air like ice Berceuse every note in the filigree enchantment. At the heart of it is the Her Chopin is silkily feline rather crystals; the ornamentation is expassage-work is given its due weight. Czech Philharmonic, purveyor of MICHAEL CHURCH exquisite forest murmurings and

shines through. It took him a lifetime to find Rusalka, hut find her he did. Mackerras unerringly wends our way to the final duet and the of us know the aria, but this sweetest solo horn counterpoint handsome recording - too long ever to ferry star-crossed lovers to eternity - the phrase "late flowering" takes on a whole new meaning.

EDWARD SECKERSON

Katin takes care of business

A maestro mourns the power of money, while Rimsky-Korsakov offers some consolation

ON 13 DECEMBER, 1948, an 18year-old boy gave a Wigmore recital which The Daily Telegraph bailed with decorous rapture: "Everything he did had a certain distinction. His Scarlatti was unhurried, discreet, and intimate, and in Mozart and Beethoven his tone often had a great loveliness."

On Sunday - 50 years to the day since that dehut - Peter Katin will again play at the Wigmore, and with a very sunilar programme. A triumphant occasion? Of course, but also an uneasy one. For Katin fears that this concert may be his farewell: his 1999 diary is a bar ren landscape.

This sounds odd, coming from the man who only last week was Joan Bakewell's guest on Radio 3, whose records have consistently exhibited those qualities first identified in 1948, and whose reviews still routinely glow.

How can an artist of such calpass? The answer, says Katin, is commercialism. "When your work dries up, you start getting panic attacks. If I thought there had been a falling-off in my playing, I'd call it a day, but I don't think it is failing off. There was always a mafia running the music world, and when I started my career, that mafia sense when you track him to his was musical. The mafia now lair in a modest Croydon side- from being a rather silly boy have been a great composer, consolation.

power not from musical expertise, but from money. I'm not alone in thinking this."

It's perhaps significant that what was once called the music world is now known as the music business: watching the most heavily promoted names hogging the publicity and notching up commenaurate fees, you take Katin's point.

"Almost all the pianists playing at the Festival Hall charge around £7,000, whereas my fee is £2,000. Being cheap has become a stigma."

His bitterness is not directed at other pianists - he happily lists the up-and-coming players he admires - but he does deplore the way the art itself has changed. "If Fischer, Cortot, Gieseking, Ruhinstein and Solomon were to figure in one season - as they regularly used to - people would be astonished at their diversity. Players are now enormously efficient, but ibre come to such an unhappy they all tend to resemble each other, as do the orchestras. In the old days, you knew instantly if you were listening to a Russian one, or an American one, or

an English one. Now you get this even, international sound." If Katin comes across as an edgy misfit, that's only the downside to the integrity you

SIGHT READINGS



MICHAEL CHURCH

street. The books and pictures indicate wide-ranging interests, but everything else suggests the rigorous pursuit of timeless pianistic goals.

The Steinway dates from 1900, and the Collard fortepiano, on which he records Chopin, from the 1830s.

His life story reflects a similar rigour. The son of a Lithuanian-Jewish signpainter, he was accepted as a when he was only 12, but he dates his real musical awakening to three key encounters. "I decided to play for people I admired, and to go on doing so until one of them opened the door for me. I just wanted someone to help me change

who played quite well, into hut his music has great charm,

Myra Hess was his first stop. For three bours she tore my playing to shreds, to the point where I felt ready to give up all

thought of becoming a planist." His next encounter was with Clifford Curzon, who was no less critical about his playing.
"I suddenly realised that he had opened that door. He taught me that every time you go on stage you must re-create the works you play: put them through the prism of your mind."

His third encounter was with Claudio Arrau, the Chilean virtuoso, who opened his eyes to art and architecture, and taught him the importance of not getting one-tracked. "And I began to understand that everything a musician learns will influence his playing."

What advice would Katin give his younger self now, if be came knocking at the door? He looks blank. "I really don't know. But I certainly wouldn't advise him to do the big competitions, student at the Royal Academy if be wants to retain his individuality. How can you claim that one player is better than another? Either one is not an artist - or one is. And if one is,

RIMSKY-KORSAKOV may not

it is in one's own unique way."

and it's good that this composer will herald the end of the Royal Opera as we know it, with his operatic fable, The Golden Cockerel, at Sadler's Wells.

To get a sense of what we may expect on 22 December, I look in on the designer Anthony Baker and the director Tim Hopkins. Baker's set designs are gracefully suggestive, as befits their intention to point up the timelessness of Rimsky's satire (the plot concerns the pride and fall of a tsari.

Hopkins is one of those directors who turns an interview into a piece of performance art, using the word "console" as poetic types hrandish "quolidian", and steel-and-glass architects negate their horrors with the aid of the term "nestle". The piece is, on the surface,

festive," says Hopkins. "But it is not consoling. It's about disavowal, and creativity in the teeth of political unease. It's a kind of surrender to instability, which I find really thrilling." Baker says they intend to

use ambiguity "to give the audience the oxygen of creative choices". It will be, says Hopkins, "the perfect place for the doors of perception to open." Well, there's a challenge to

sort the men from the boys. Personally, I'll settle for a spot of

ON THE AIR

BAYAN NORTHCOTT

AT PRESENT, Radio 3 love for all manner of music documentaries seem to fall into three categories: programmes about music, programmes around music, and programmes produced hy Antony Pitts. Admittedly, the "around" category still appears in the ascendant in the wake of Nicholas Kenyon'a controllership; programmes such as Sound Stories in which more or less any old "theme" may be drummed up to link a selection of discs, provided all specific same techniques invade his talk about the music itself documentaries, the result is sedulously avoided.

True, there are also illuminating talks. discussions and documentaries on individual works, composers, and so on - still intermittently to be heard, notably as interval items during the Proms. But amid the thousands of bours Radio 3 devotes per year to record miscellanies, not a single one is currently assigned to the detailed exploration of a selected work in the way that the much-loved Antony Hopkins used to do.

Among the network's younger producers, Pitts has shown he is perfectly capable of straightforward documentaries in both the "around" and "about" categories. But he is also a composer with a special

dizzying textural pile-ups and naughty harmonic contradictions. Where this creative ingenuity has fed back into his broadcast features, as in his production of Adrian Jack's Chromatic Fantasy in 1994, the resulting multi-tracked and cross-faded collages of music, speech and directional sound have proved some of the most intricate and evocative in recent radio. Where the

can be more problematic. As it sometimes has heen in the sequence of considering rhythm, harmony and melody plus form in 20th century music, which Pitts has recently contributed to the Sunday evening series, Settling The Score, for Sounding the Century. Granted, the musical evolution of the past 100 years has proved so complex, it would require a series of Open University scope and care justly to represent it. Pitts's alternative approach of sampling and cross-cutting at least offers the virtue of concentration. All the same, there were patches in the first two

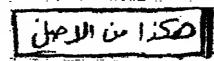
programmes so nifty in

their multi-allusiveness

that it was hard to imagine

that anyone with less than total recall of the century's music could keep up with the half of it.

So that last Sunday's more lucidly textured melody and form programme, devised by Julian Anderson, suggested a lesson well learnt. Nor were Pitts's ingenuities any less vivid; it was fascinating to hear the voice of old Joseph Taylor singing "Brigg Fair", recorded in his Lincolnshire workhouse almost 100 years ago, gradually modulating into the harmonisations of Grainger and Delius, or hirdsong slowly lowered to the same pitch as Messiaen's transcriptions Yet, among the recorded remarks of composers, from the venerable Elliott Carter to the rising young Thomas Adès, you remained tantalised by a richness and variety of ideas that there was no time to follow up – as when the late Morton Feldman raised the question of which composers were good at beginnings, and which better at endings. Beginnings, middles and ends: now there is a "theme", not just "around" or even "about" but "of", and which, clearly explored in a series, could surely draw even a casual listener back to the music itself.



NEW FILMS

THE BOYS (18) Director: Rowan Woods ** tarring: David Wennam, Toni Collette. Lynelle Curran

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Out of jail after serving a sentence for GBH, oldest "boy" Brett Sprague (Wenham) moves back into his mum's drab suburban home, terrorises his girlfriend (Collette), and turns his younger brothers into petty henchmen. Adapted from Gordon Graham's acclaimed stage-play, The Boys spotlights the flipside of life Down Under, with a stark social-realist drama circling gracefully around a horrific crime which is hinted at but never actually shown. Occasionally, its theatrical origins are too readily apparent, but Rowan Woods' stealthy handling and Wenham's menacing lead ensure that the interest seldom dwindles. Potent, predatory stuff. West End: Metro, Ritzy Cinema

THE MASK OF ZORRO (PG)

Director: Martin Campbell Starring: Anionio Banderas, Anthony Hopkins, Catherine Zeta Jones

The Zorro yarn resurrected. Martin "GoldenEye" Campbell's gaudy swashbuckler gallops fullspeed through 19th-century California in the company of Antonio Banderas's authentically Hispanic do-gooder. A bite-sized history lesson on West Coast politics jostles for purchase amid a riot of colourful duels and clattering action setpieces. It's old-fashioned and reliably entertaining. Anthony Hopkins and Catherine Zeta Jones bring a whiff of the valleys to their father and-daughter co-star slots.

West End: Barbican Screen. Clapham Picture House, Elephant & Castle Coronet. Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Leicester Square, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema. UCI Whiteleys, Virgin

THE PARENT TRAP (PG)

Director: Nancy Meckler Starring: Lindsay Lohao, Nalasha Richardson

The Parent Trap catches Disney cannibalising its own back catalogue; re-heating its 1961 Hayley Mills heartwarmer into a spry, cross-cultural caper starring Lindsay Lohan as the separated-atbirth twin sisters (one British, one American) determined to get their parents (Natasba-Richardson, Dennis Quaid) back together. It's a film of sleek, clean surfaces, bright colours and neat knockabout comedy. But a thick layer of syrup covers every inch.

West End: Odeon Camden Town. Odeon Kensington. Odeon Marble Arch. Odeon Swiss Cottage. Odeon West End, UCI Whiteleys. Virgin Chelsea

PLAYING GOD (18) Director: Andy Wilson

Starring: David Duchovny, Timothy Hutton Cracker director Wilson suffers a rude lesson in Hollywood politics with this glossy but garbled thriller about a junkie doctor (David Duchovny) embroiled with a gang of counterfeiters headed by a hammy Tim Hutton.

Essentially a star vehicle for Duchovny, Plnying God nonetheless conspires to steer a most illdisciplined course, swerving from grisly violence (cue jets of arterial blood) to po-faced character study (Duchovny wants his licence back) to surrealistic comedy (an encounter with a bunch of saintly bikers). Hutton and his cronies indulge in all manner of insipid gangster chat, but they look a limp and spindly bunch who would be hard pushed lighting their way out of a paper bag. Duchovny and luminous co-star Angeliue Jolie look on stunefied.

West End: Virgin Fulham Road, Warner Village

Nathaniel Hulley

GENERAL RELEASE

ANTZ (PG)

See The Independent Recommends. above. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Odeon Cottage, Plaza. Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys. Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero

MABE: PIG IN THE CITY (U)

The follow-up to Babe tosses the hapless "sheeppig" into the midst of the city where he hecomes the unlikely saviour of a hunch of assorted waifs. Knockabout comedy is kept to a minimum in favour of a bleak, animatronic fairytale.

West End: ABC Baker Street, ABC Tottenham Court Road, Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Elephant & Castle Coronet, Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero

LADE (18)

A techno soundtrack bumps and grinds behind this monotonous thriller about 8 New York vampire killer tackling a power-crazed new bloodsucker. Noise and martial arts action mask its tinny pedigree.

West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kens-Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero. Warner Village West End

DANCING AT LUGHNASA (PG)

Less a dance, more of a trudge, O'Connor's set saga pinpoints the ebb and flow of an eccentric Catholic family in deepest Donegal. What gives it backbone is Meryl Streep's regal performance as the brood's eldest sister, plus the ever-watchable Michael Gambon as the homecoming hrother. Kathy Burke, Catherine McCormack and Brid Brennan also feature. West End: Curzon Mayfair, Notting Hill Coronet,

DEAD MAN'S CURVE (15)

All the students at writer-director Dan Rosen's nameless American college are trying to butcher each other, led into temptation by an obscure regulation that awards straight-A grades to the rym-mates of suicides. Though not as deliciously as the Scream films, Dead Man's Curve delivers a respectable quota of drive-in shocks. West End: ABC Piccadilly, Virgin Trocadero

 $z \mapsto z \, \mathcal{H}''$

Shekhar Kapur's follow-up to Bandit Queen is the story of a woman struggling to gain purchase in a male world. But Kapur largely neglects the oportunities for fun in a film which ultimately tells a tale of independence triumphing over cruelty. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Odeon Harmarket, Odeon Mezzanine, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Screen on the Green, Virgin Fulham Road

THE END OF VIOLENCE (15)

Wim Wenders is back on form with this stylish and intelligent techno-noir about a Nasa plot to "end ence as we know it" through mass surveillance. West End: Ritzy Cinema

FEAR AND LOATHING IN LAS VEGAS (18) Terry Gilliam's adaptation tilts at Ralph Steadman cartoonery for its tale of a drug-fuelled journalistic assignment. The film soon descends into a carnival of narcotic lunacy, and the one stand-out is Johnny Depp, who brings Hunter S Thompson into hald-headed, pigeon-toed life.

West End: ABC Baker Street, Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Camden Town, Rilzy Cinema, Screen on the Green, Virgin Haymarket

THE FOUNTAINHEAD (PG)

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: Curzon Soho

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE (U) Capra's festive bauble is a lot darker and more complex than it is generally given credit for being, with James Stewart's labouring everyman shown how dreary his hometown would have been had be ntager been born. Its syrupy sentimentality contains at sick vein of bile, and, at the day's end, this is the making of the film; turning it into a bittersweet salute to the little man who makes a big difference.

West End: Clapham Picture House, Curzon Soho, Gate Notting Hill, Phoenix Cinema. Ritzy Cinema

LEFT LUGGAGE (PG)

Krabbe's first stab as a director focuses on the ebbs and flows within a Hasidic family in 1970s Holland. Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch. Odeon Swiss Fitful as drama, the film comes to life as a showcase for its high-profile performers plus rising star Laura Fraser.

West End: ABC Swiss Centre, Curzon Minema. Odeon Swiss Cottage, Phoenix Cinema, Rio Cinema. Screen on Baker Street

LOCK, STOCK AND TWO SMOKING BARRELS (18)

Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels follows the lead of Quentin Tarantino, but the film's defining characteristic is its resilient morality. The picture is peopled by thugs, both amateur and professional, Young Eddy, who comes unstuck in a high-stakes card game, falls into the former category; but Hatchet Harry, to whom he owes £500,000, is a dangerous old-school pro.

West End: ABC Baker Street, ABC Panton Street, Clapham Picture House. Odeon Kensington. Odeon Mezzanine, Rio Cinema, Warner Village

MULAN (I)

This Disney's animated feature has it all: a ington. Odeon Marble Arch. Ritzy pro-active heroine who doesn't want to tend to a man or pet woodland animals; a strong father/daughter relationship; bonour and nobility; and, of course, cross-dressing. It's also one of the most visually innovative movies that Disney has ever made.

West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Mezzanine, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

MY NAME IS JOE 1151

See 'The Independent Recommends', above. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Ritzu Cinema, Screen on the Hill, Virgin Chelsea,

THE NEGOTIATOR (15)

Samuel L Jackson and Kevin Spacey go bead to head in Gray's thrilling drama. The script has a predilection for lunk-headed swearing that sounds uneasy in the mouths of such articulate, rhetorical

West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Marble Arch. UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

ON CONNAIT LA CHANSON (PG)

Love him or loathe him, Last Year at Marienbad auteur Resnais is a queer fish. Four years after the Continental breakfast he made of Alan Ayckbourn's Smoking/No Smoking comes this rattling merry-go-round of romantic intrigue, "inspired by the work of Dennis Potter", and featuring a lot of Potteresque lip-synching to popular French show tunes. West End: Chelsea Cinema, Renoir

OUT OF SIGHT (15) See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: Clapham Picture House, Empire Leicester Square, Gate Notting Hill, Odeon Comden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, UCI Whiteleys. Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: Odeon Kensington, Odeon West End, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road

RUSH HOUR (15)

Rush Hour marries the Hong Kong action icon Jackie Chan with an LA backdrop, 8 jobbing Hollywood director (Money Talks' Ratner) and a wise-cracking black comic in Chris Tucker's huckstering LAPD man. Its caffeinated plotline sends Easterner and Westerner on the trail of a Chinese crime syndicate, and oscillates wildly hetween Tucker's verbal dexterity and Chan's adrenalised physicality. It's a hit-and-

West End: Elephant & Castle Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

opposite sides of the law

The five Best films

Out of Sight (15) This tale of love on (rom director Steven Soderhergh manages 10 knock spots off every previous Elmore Leonard adaptation, and boasts in George Clooney (right) and Jennifer Lopez the most romantic pairing of the cinematic year.

Antz (PG)

Computer-animated comedy voiced by a stellar east stars Woody Allen as a worker ant who becomes an unlikely opnoment of the colony's totalitarian regime. Allen's best work in a while. My Name is Joe (15)

All that one would expect from a Ken Loach film

- humour, indignation, emotional sympathy driven by Peter Mullan's scary, intense performance as a recovering alcoholic.

John Frankenheimer's action thriller is buttressed

by a fine international cast (Robert De Niro, Jean-Reno, Stellan Skarsgard), moody French (ocations) and a clutch of supercharged car chases. The Fountainhead

(PG; Curzon Soho)

Gary Cooper plays a visionary architect who refuses to buckle under mob pressure in King Vidor's astonishing adaptation of the Ayn Rand novel. Patricia Neal smoulders opposite him,

ANTHONY OUINN

THE FIVE BEST PLAYS

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

Love Upon the Throne Comedy Theatre

The Charles and Diana story (well, up to the divorce) presented by the National Theatre of Brent, Hilarious and oddly touching. To 31 Jan

Angela Carter Cinderella Lyric. Hammersmith

A feast of inspired silliness and visual magic, this has lashings of drag and double entendres, plus the best mice on a West End stage. To 9 Jan

Martin Guerre West Yorkshire Playhouse, Leeds

Gifted young Irish director Conall Morrison stages a second reworking of the troubled Boubil/ Schonberg musical. Will it be third time lucky? To 13 Feb

The Boy Who Feli Into a Book Stephen Joseph Theatre. Scarborough Typically willy and ingenious concept Alan from Ayekbourn (right) here wearing his cbildren's dramatist

hat. To 9 Jan

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford

Anthony Ward's splendid sets and Aslan are the stars of the RSC's Christmas spectacular, To 27 Feb.

PAUL TAYLOR

THE FIVE BEST SHOWS

Aubrey Beardsley Victoria & Albert Museum

Displaying the sbort, glittering life of the aesthete and illustrator, with his sinuous and florid line. Drawiogs, prints and posters. To 10 Jan

Rosemarie Trockel Whitechapel Gallery Influential German artist; includes a sculpture of a seal called No one under the sun is more miserable than the man who has a ferish for a lady's shoe and must make do with the whole woman. To 7 Feb.

Manchester

This 1998 Turner Prizewinner is ao upbeat original, bis surfaces dense and decorative, with swirls of dots, eyes, Afros and black icons, and incorporating mutani balls of elephani dung. To 24 Jan

Goya: The

Maidstone Museum & Art Gallery

Goya was deaf, ill and in his seventies when he produced his last series of etchings. Mysterious in intention, it is a void world: life is folly, men fly off

Museum & Art Gallery

TOM LUBSOCK

CINEMA WEST END

ABC BAKER STREET

(0870-9020418)

Baker Street
Babe: Pig In The City 1.20pm,
3.40pm, 6.10pm Fear And
Loathing In Las Vegas 2.25pm,
5.25pm, 8.15pm Lock, Stock &

Barrels 1.10pm, 3.35pm, 6pm, 8.30pm A Perfect Murder 2.40pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm The Wisdom Of Crocodiles 1.10pm, 3.30рт, 6рт, 8.30рт

ABC PICCADILLY (0171-287 4322 (from 1pm) & Piccadilly Circus Dead Man's Curve 4.05pm, 8.45pm Hamam: The Turkish Bath 1.25pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.35pm Victory 1.10pm, 6.10pm

ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE Square Siums Of Beverly Hills 1.05pm, 3.20pm, 9pm Yexas Chainsaw Massacre 1.35pm, 3.55pm, 6.35pm, 8.30pm, 11pm

ABC SWISS CENTRE 3.25pm. 5.20pm, 7.13pm, 9.10pm The Governess 1.45pm, 9.55pm 8.45pm Left 4.05pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm Left Luggage 1.30pm, 6.55pm Rien Ne Va Plus 4.45pm, 9.05pm La Vie Revée Des Anges 1.25pm, 3.45pm, 6.05pm, 8.25pm

ABC TOTTENHAM COURT

Babe: Pig In The City 1.35pm. 4pm, 6.20pm Elizabeth 3.40pm. 8.55pm My Name Is Joe 1.15pm, 3.55pm. 6.40pm. 9.20pm The Negotiator 8.50pm BARBICAN SCREEN

CHELSEA CINEMA

Connaît La Chanson Ipm. 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE (0171-498 3323] ← Clapham Common Babe: Pig In The City 1.45pm. 4.15pm, 6.45pm It's A Wonderful Life 1.30pm, 6.30pm Lock. Stock & Two Smo Barrels 4pm, 9.15pm The Mask Of Zorro 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9pm Out Of Sight 9.30pm

CURZON MAYFAIR (0171-369 1720) → Green Park Dancing At Lughnasa 2pm. 4.15pm. 6.30pm. 9pm

CURZON SOHO (0171-734 2255 (12pm-6pm) → Leicester Square/Toctenham Court Road The Eel 1.30pm, 4.15pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm The Fountainhead 2.45pm, 9.30pm Henry Fool 3.20pm, 9pm It's A Wonderful Life 12.45pm, 6.30pm The Philadelphia Story 12.30pm. 5pm, 7.15pm

ELEPHANT CASTLE Castle Babe: Pig In The City 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.30pm The Mask Of Zorro 4.30pm, 8.10pm Rush Hour 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm

EMPIRÉ LEICESTER SQUARE 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm, 11.15pm Fear And Loathing In Las Vegas 12,40pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 9pm, 11.40pm Out Of Sight 12.10pm, 2.55pm. 5.50pm, 8.35pm, 11.20pm GATE NOTTING HILL

(0171-727 4043] O Notting Hill Gate It's A Wonderful Life .40pm; (+ 5hort: Whoosh) Out Of Sight 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.05pm, 11.35pm

(0171-930 3647) © Charing Cross Bernie 6.30pm, 8.30pm

Bernie 6.30pm, Kagemusha 5pm, 8.30pm

(0171-734 1506) & Piccadilly Circus/Leicester Square The Boys 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Buffalo 66 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm,

CURZON MINEMA |0171-369 1723) & Hyde Park Corner Left Luggage 2,50pm. 6,50pm La Vie Revée Des Anges

4.40pm, 8.40pm NOTTING HILL CORONET (0171-727 6705) Θ Notting Hill Gate Dancing At Lughnasa 2.30pm. 4.30pm, 6.30pm,

ODEON CAMDEN TOWN ODEON CAMDEN TOWN (08705-050007] © Camden Town Babe: Pig In The City 12.10am, 2.10pm, 4.15pm, 6.15pm Blade 11.25pm Fear And Loathing In Las Vegas 11 15pm The Mask Of Zorro 11.50am, 2.40pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm, 11.25pm The Negotiator 8.20pm Out Of Sight 12ncon, 3pm, 5.55pm, 8.40pm, 11.40pm The Parent Trap 12.15pm, 2.50pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm Rush Hour 11.55am, 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 9.05pm, 11.30pm

ODEON HAYMARKET

ODEON KENSINGTON Kensington Babe: Pig In The City 12noon. 2.25pm. 4.50pm. 7.15pm Blade 9.35pm. 12.25am Lock, Stock & Tiwo Smoking Barrels 12.15am The Mask Of Zorro 12.15am The Mask Of Zorro 2.25pm, 5.40pm, 8.55pm Out Of Sight 12.20pm, 3.20pm, 6.20pm, 9.20pm, 12.20am The Parent Trap 12noon, 3pm, 6.05pm, 9.10pm The Prince Of Egypt 12.15am Ronin 12.30pm, (0171-435 3366) O Belsize Park

6.20pm. 4.30pm, 12.15am 7.05pm, **ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE**

8.20pm, 11.25pm **ODEON MARBLE ARCH** (08705-050007] & Marble Arch Babe: Pig In The City 11.55am, 2.10pm, 4.45pm, 6.35pm Blade 11.50pm The Mask Of Zorro 11.45pm, 2.50pm, 5.55pm, 9pm, 12.05am The Negotiator 8.55pm, 12.05am The Negotiator 8.55pm, 12midnight Out Of Sight 12.20pm. 3.15pm. 6.05pm. 8.55pm. 11.45pm The Parent Trap 12.15pm. 3.05pm. 5.55pm. 8.50pm Rush Hour 11.50am. 2.15pm. 4.40pm. 7.05pm.

9.30pm, 11.55pm ODEON MEZZANINE 8.35pm Les Miserables 2.35pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm Snake Eyes 2pm, 4.10pm, 6.20pm, 8.35pm There's Something About Mary 12.45pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm,

8.20pm **ODEON SWISS COTTAGE** (08705-050007] ← Swiss Cottage Antz 1.50pm, 3.50pm, 6pm Babe: Pig in The City 12.10pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm Elizabeth 8.15pm Left Luggage 8.45pm The Mask Of Zorro 1.40pm, 4.55pm, 8pm Out Of Sight 12.20pm, 3pm. 5.35pm. 8.20pm The Parent Trap 12.15pm, 3.05pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm Rush Hour 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm,

ODEON WEST END 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm, 11.30pm Ronin 12.35pm, 3.10pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm, 11.20pm

PEPSI IMAX CINEMA (0171-494 4153) ⊕ Piccadilly Citcus Everest 12.35pm, 2.40pm, 4.45pm, 7pm, 9.05pm T-Rex: Back To The Cretaceous (3-D) 1.35pm, 3.40pm. 5.45pm, 8pm, 10.05pm

it's A Wonderful Life 4pm Left Luggage 1.45pm 6.45pm. 9pm (0990-888990) ← Piccadilly Circus Antz 3.30pm Rush Hour 1.30pm, 4pm. 6.30pm, 9pm Saving Private

Ryan 3.15pm, 7.15pm The Truman Show 6pm, 8.30pm Twillight 1pm,

PHOENIX CINEMA

(0171-837 8402) → Russell Square On Connait La Chanson 1pm. 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.35pm The Philadelphia Story 1.30pm, 3.55pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm

3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.35pm

RIO CINEMA (0171-254 6677) BR: Dalston Kingsland The Borrowers Tue 4.15pm Henry Fool 3.15pm.

8.30pm Left Luggage 6.15pm RITZY CINEMA

RITZY CINEMA (0171-733 2229) BR/O Brixton Blade 11.40pm The Boys 1.30pm, 3.25pm. 5.20pm, 7.20pm, 9.25pm, 11.25pm The End Of Violence 2pm Fear And Loathing In Las Vegas 7pm, 11.55pm It's A Wonderful Life 1pm 6.25pm It's A Wonderful Life Ipm 6.25pm Ipm 6. 11.55pm It's A Wonderful Life 1pm, 6.25pm (+ Short: Whoosh) The Mask Of Zorro 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 8.55pm, 11.45pm My Name Is Joe 3.45pm, 9.10pm (+ 5hort: The Man Who held His Breath] Out Of 5ight 1.10pm, 3.55pm, 6.35pm (fue-Thur), 9.15pm (+ Short: Vacuum) Rush Hour 4.15pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm, 11.50pm

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET (0171-935 2772) & Baker Street Left Luggage 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9pm Out Of Sight 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm

SCREEN ON THE GREEN (0171-226 3520) 9 Angel Loathing In Las Vegas 11.15pm La Vie Revée Des Anges 6.15pm. SCREEN ON THE HILL

Dancing At Lughnasa 2.45pm, 4.45pm, 6.45pm My Name is Joe UCI WHITELEYS Of Zorro 3.05pm, 5.55pm. 8.50pm The Negotiator 3.10pm,

6.50pm the Regolatol 3.10pm, 6pm, 9pm Out Of Sight 3.30pm, 6.40pm, 9.15pm The Parent Trap 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9.05pm Rush Hour 4.20pm, 6.50pm, 9.40pm Snake Eyes 9.30pm VIRGIN CHELSEA (0870-9070710) ← Sloane Square Antz 12.30pm, 2.30pm, 4.30pm, 6.30pm My Name Is Joe 9pm Out 0f Sight 12.20pm, 3pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm The Parent Trap 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Rush Hour 2pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.15cm

VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD 2pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm The Masi Of Zorro 12.20pm, 3.10pm, 6.10pm, 9.10pm The Negotiator 12.40pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.15pm Playing God 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm Ronin 9.30om There's Something About Mary 12.50pm, 3.20pm. 6pm.

VIRGIN HAYMARKET (0870-9070712) → Piccadilly Circus Fear And Loathing In Las Vegas 12.45pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.35pm My Name Is Joe 12.55pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm There's Something Mary 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm,

VIRGIN TROCADERO 4.40pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm Babe; Pig In The City 1pm, 3.20pm, 5.40pm, 8.10pm Blade 12.10pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm, 11.35pm Dead Man's Curve 12.10am The Negotiator 2pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm Out Of Sight 12noon, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm, 11.30pm The Player's Club 12midnight Rush Hour 12.10pm, 2.25pm, 4.40pm. 7pm, 9.20pm, 10,10pm, 11.40pm, 12.10am The Truman Show 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm 9pm, 11.30pm

WARNER VILLAGE WEST END

(0171-437 4343) ← Leicester oquare Blade 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm, 12.05am The Anniversary Excroist (2Sth Rerelease) 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6pm (not Tue), 8.40pm, 11.35pm Lethal Weapon 4 12noon, 2.50pm. 5.40pm, 8.30pm, 11.15pm **Lock,** Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm. Negotiator 6.10pm, 3.10pm, 6.10pm, 12.10am A Perfect 12.10pm. Murder 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm (not Mon). 9pm, 12.10am Playing God 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm. 7.10pm, 9.40pm, 11.55pm Rush Hour 12.50pm, 1.50pm, 3.20pm, 4.20pm, 5.50pm, 7pm (not Mon).

Disparates

on wings into darkness. To 23 Jan

Edward Burne-Jones Birmingham

Centenary exhibition (above) gathers together many favourites illustrating Burne-Jones's romantic and medievalist nether world, To 17 Jan

CINEMA LONDON LOCALS

PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE [0181-896 0066) & Park Royal Antz 12.10pm, 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 6.30pm, 8.30pm Babe; Pig In The City 12.05pm, 1.30pm, 2.20pm, 3.50pm, 4.50pm, 7.20pm Blade 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm, 12,40am The Exordist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 11.20pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Bar-rels 10.10pm, 13.30am The Mask Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Bar-rels 10.10pm, 12.30am The Mask Of Zorro 12noon, 3pm, 6pm, 8.55pm, 12midnight The Negotla-tor 3.20pm, 6.20pm, 9.30pm, 12.30am Out Of Sight 6.10pm, 9.05pm, 11.55pm The Parent Trap 2.50pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm Rush Hour 2pm, 2.40pm, 4.20pm, 5.05pm, 6.50pm, 7.30pm, 9.15pm, 9.55pm, 11.40pm, 12.20am

BARNET ODEON (08705-050007) @ High Barnet Antz 1.40pm, 3.25pm Babe: Pig in The Clty 1.35pm, 3.40pm, 5.55pm The Mask Of Zorro 1.55pm, 4.55pm, 7.55pm The Nectiator 8.10pm Out Of Sight 5.30pm, 8.30pm The Parent Trap 1.45pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm Rush Hour 2.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm

BECKENHAM ABC (0870-9020412) BR: Beckenham Junction Babe: Pig In The City 12.10pm, 2.15pm, 4.25pm Lock, 9.40pm The Parent Trap 12.30pm, 3.15pm, ·6.15pm, 9.15pm Rush Hour 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm,

BEXLEYHEATH CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550) BR: Bexleyheath Antz 1.40pm, 3.40pm, 5.40pm, 7.40pm Babe: Pig In The City 12.30pm, 1.15pm, 2.45pm, 3.30pm. 5pm, 6pm Blade 2pm, 4.45pm, 7.15pm, 9.40pm, 12.25am The Exorcist (2Sth Anniversary Parallel 12.20pm Market Number 1.20pm The Exorcist (2Sth Anniversary Rerelease) 12.20am Kuch Kuch Hota Hai 2.30pm, 6pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 7.15pm, 9.45pm, 12.15am The Mask Of Zorro 12noon, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm. 12midnight Out Of Sight 1pm. 4pm. 7pm, 9.40pm, 12.20am The Parent Trap 1.15pm, 4pm. 6.50pm, 9.35pm Ronin 9.40pm, 12.15am Rush Hour 12.20pm, 2.35pm. Rush Hour 12,20pm 2,35pm. 4.45pm. 7.15pm, 8pm, 9.35pm, 10pm. 11.45pm. 12.15am There's Something About Mary 9.30pm.

BROMLEY ODEON (08705-050007) BR: Bromley North/Bromley South Antz phone for details Babe: Pig In The City phone for details The Mask Of Zorro Phone for details Mulan phone for details Out Of Sight phone for details The Parent Trap

ABC (0181-698 3306) BR: Carford. Babe: Pig In The City 1pm, 3.30pm, 5.45pm The Negotiator 8pm Rush Hour 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm.

hone for details Rush Hour phone

CROYDON **CLOCKTOWER (0181-253 1030)** BR: Croydon West/East It's A Won-derful Life 5.30pm, 8.15pm Saving Private Ryan 2pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 8080] BR: East Croydon Antz 1.10pm, 3.10pm, 5.10pm, 7.10pm. 9.15pm Babe: Pig in The City 11.50am, 2.10pm. 4.45pm. 7.20pm Blade 1.20pm, 4.10pm, 7pm. 9.50pm, 12.30am The Express (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 11.30pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 12 midnight The Mask Of Zorro 12noon, 3pm. 6pm, 9pm. 12.10am The Negotiator 11.40am, 2.40pm. 5.40pm. 8.45pm. 11.50pm Out of Sight 12.50pm, 3.50pm, 6.40pm, 9.25pm, 12.15am The Parent Trap 11.45am, 2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm, 11.40pm Rush Hour 1.50pm, 4.20pm, 6.50pm, 9.40pm. 12.20am

DAGENHAM WARNER VILLAGE (0181-592 2020) O Dagenham Heathway Antz 1.40pm. 3.50pm. 5.45pm. 7.40pm. 9,40pm Babe: Pig in The City 12,50pm, 3pm, 5,30pm, 7,50pm Blade 1,15pm, 3,40pm, 6,30pm, 10,05pm, 12,45am The Exordst (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 50pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 9.15pm, 11.45pm The Mask Of Zorro 1.35pm, 4.20pm, 7.05pm, 9.50pm, 12.30am The Negotiator 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm, 12.20am Out Of Sight 2pm, 4.40pm, 7.20pm, 10pm, 12.40am The Parent Trap 1.30pm, 4.10pm,

6.50pm, 9.40pm, 12.20am Rush Hour 1.10pm, 2pm, 3.30pm, 4.20pm, 6.20pm, 7pm, 9pm, 9.30pm, 11.30pm, 12midrught

EALING

FALING
VIRGIN UXBRIDGE ROAD (08709070719] BR/O Ealing Broadway
Babe: Pig in The City 1,15pm.
3.30pm, 5.45pm The Mask Of
Zorro 2pm. 5.30pm, 8.30pm Out
Of Sight 8.15pm Rush Hour
2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9pm EDGWARE BELLE-VUE (0181-381 2556) O Edgware Antz 2.15pm, 4pm Jhoole Bole Kauwa Kaate phone for rimes Kuch Kuch Hota Hai phone for times Mehndi phone for times Pardeshi Babu phone for times The Parent Trap 2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm Wajood phone for times

EDMONTON LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-888990) & Toltenham Hale Antz 2.40pm, 3.35pm, 4.45pm, 6.55pm Babes Pig In The City 3pm, 4.10pm, 5.20pm, 7.15pm, 9.45pm Blade 7.05pm, 10pm The Exorcist [25th Anniversary Rerelease] 11.50pm Kuch Kuch Hota Hal 9.05pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 13.35pm The Mark Officer 20pm 12.35am The Mask Of Zorro 2pm 12.33mm 1.6 Mask Or Zorro 2pm. 5.30pm, 8.40pm, 12midnight The Negotlator 2.10pm, 5.10pm, 8.30pm, 11.35pm Out Of Sight 3.10pm, 6.20pm, 9.25pm, 12.20am 3.10pm, 0.20pm, 9.25pm, 12.20am The Parent Trap 11.50am, 2.50pm, 5.50pm, 8.50pm The Player's Club 12.20am Ronin 3.30pm, 6.40pm, 9.35pm, 12.25am Rush Hour 2.30pm, 4pm, 5pm, 6.30pm, 7.40pm, 9.15pm, 10.10pm, 11.45pm, 12.40am Saving Private Playa 9.05 Small Soldlers, 2.10pm

Ryan 9pm Small Soldiers 2.10pm, 4.40pm There's Something About Mary 6.10pm, 12.30am

FINCHLEY WARNER VILLAGE (0181-446 9344) & East Finchley Antz 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm Babe: Pig In The City 2pm, 4.40pm, 7.20pm In the City 2pm. 4.40pm, 7.20pm Blade 9.45pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 12midnight Fear And Loathing in Las Vegas 9.30pm, 12.10am The Mask Of Zorro 2.20pm, 5.40pm, 8.50pm, 11.50pm The Negotlator 3pm, 6.20pm, 9.20pm Out Of Sight 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.40pm 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.40pm The Parent Trap 2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm Ronin 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.40pm Rush Hour 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm, 11.30pm

FINCHLEY ROAD Babe: Pig in The City 12.30pm. 2.50pm, 5.15pm, 7.40pm Fear And 2.50pm, 5.15pm, 7.40pm Fear And Loathing in Las Vegas 10pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 10.15pm The Mask Of Zorro 12noon, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm The Negotiator 1pm, 3.55pmm, 6.55pm, 9.45pm Out Of Sight 12.50pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm The Parent Trap 12.10pm, 3.10pm, 6.10pm, 9.10pm Ronin 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.40pm, 9.40pm Rush Hour 1.50pm, 4.20pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm 1.50pm, 4.20pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm

ABC |0181-455 1724| Golders Green Babe: Pig In The City 1.45pm, 4.05pm, 6.20pm The Governess 8.30pm CINEMA (0181-293 0101) BR:

Greenwich Antz 12noon, 3.30pm.

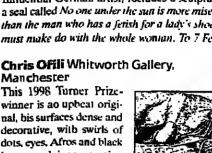
5.15pm Blade 11.50pm Elizabeth

GOLDERS GREEN

7pm The Mask Of Zorro 3pm. 5.50pm, 8.40pm, 11.30pm Out Of Sight 9.15pm Rush Hour 3.05pm. 5.10pm, 7.20pm, 9.30pm, 11.40pm HAMPSTEAD ABC (0870-9020413) → 8elsize Park Antz 6pm Babe: Pig in The

Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 8.30pm Out Of Sight 2.20pm. 8.10pm The Parent Trap 2.20pm 5.20pm, 8.10pm WARNER VILLAGE (0181-427 9009) O Harrow on the Hill Antz 11am, 1pm, 3pm, 5.05pm, 7.20pm, 9.15pm Babe: Pig In The City 11.45am. 2.10pm. 4.40pm. 7.05pm Blade 11.05am. 1.40pm. 4.15pm. 6.55pm, 9.30pm, 12mldnight The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rere-

lease) 12.10am Fear And Loathing In Las Vegas 9.30pm, 12.10am The Mask Of Zorro 11.15am, 2.20pm, 5.25pm, 8.30pm, 11.30pm The Negotiator 12.45pm, 3.45pm, 6.35pm, 9.45pm Out Of Sight 12.20pm, 3.10pm, 5.55pm. 8.45pm, 11.30pm The Parent Trap 1.05pm, 3.55pm, 6.45pm, 9.25pm Rush Hour 11am, 11.50am, 1.30pm, 2.10pm, 4.0pm, 4.30pm, 6.30рт, 7.10рт, 9рт, 9,40рт,

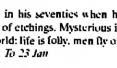












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HOLLOWAY ODEON (08705-050007) & Holloway Road/Archway Antz 1.40pm, 3.45pm, 5.45pm, 7.40pm Babe: Pig In The City 12.50pm, 3.05pm, 5.20pm, 7.35pm Blade 9.45pm The Mask Of Zorro 12.15pm, 3.15pm, 6.15pm, 9.15pm The Negotiator 12.25pm, 3.25pm, 6.25pm, 9.25pm Out Of Sight 1.35pm, 4.15pm, 6.55pm, 9.35pm The Parent Trap 1pm, 3.50pm, 6.35pm, 9.20pm

2.45pm, 3.20pm, 5pm, 5.35pm. 7.15pm, 7.50pm, 9.30pm, 10.05pm ODEON (08705-050007) & Gants Hill Antz 12.30pm, 2.35pm, 4.25pm, 6.25pm Babe: Pig In The 6.20pm, 8.40pm

nin 9.40pm Rush Hour 1.05pm,

KILBURN TRICYCLE THEATRE (0171-328 1000) & Kilburn Dancing At Lughnasa 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm

KINGSTON ABC OPTIONS (0870-9020409) BR: Kingston Babe: Pig In The City 1.10pm, 3.25pm, 6.25pm Blade 8.25pm The Parent Trap 2.10pm, 5.10pm, 8pm Rush Hour 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm

ODEON (08705-050007) & Highgate Babe: Pig to The City 1.50pm, 4pm, 6.15pm The Mask Of Zorro 2.30pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm Out Of Sight 8.35pm The Parent Trap 2.40pm, 5.30pm, 8.25pm

PREMIER (0181-235 3006) BR: Peckham Rye Antz 12noon, 3.30pm, 5.15pm Babe: Pig In The City 2,50pm, 4.50pm, 6.45pm Blade 4.10pm, 6.35pm, 9.15pm, 11.45pm Elizabeth 7pm The Mask 11.45pm Elizabeth /pm The Mass Of Zorro 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.45pm, 11.30pm The Negotiator 8.40pm, 11.25pm Out Of 5ight 9.20pm, 11,45pm The Parent Trap 4.15pm, 6.40pm, 9pm The Player's Club 11,55pm Rush Hour 3.05pm, 5, L0pm, 7,20pm, 9,30pm, 11,40pm

PURLEY ABC (0870-9020407) BR: Purley Babe: Pig tn The City 2.50pm, 5,50pm Blade 8,15pm The Parent Trap 2.05pm, 5.05pm, 8.05pm Rush Hour 2.35pm, 5,35pm. PUTNEY

ABC (0870-9020401) & Putney Bridge. BR: Putney. Antz 4.30pm Babe: Pig In The City 2pm. 4.15pm. 6.30pm The Negotiator 9.15pm Out Of Sight 1.45pm. 6.30pm. 9.30pm The Parent Trap 2.15pm. 6.15pm, 9.15pm

RICHMONO ODEON (08705-050007) 8R/O Richmond The Mask Of Zorro 2.10pm, 5.40pm, 8.40pm The Par-ent Trap 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9pm Rush Hour 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm

OOEON STUDIO (08705-050007) BR/O Richmond Antz 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm Babe; Pig in The City 1.30pm, 3.40pm, 6pm Dancing At Lughnasa 2pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.20pm The Negotiator 8.40pm Out Of Sight 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 6pm, 9pm Ronin 8.50pm

ROMFORD ABC (0870-9020419) BR: Romford Babe: Pig In The City 1.30pm, 3.30pm, 5.30pm Elizabeth 8.05pm The Parent Trap 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.05pm Rush Hour 1.45pm, 4.05pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm

OOEON LIBERTY 2 (08705 050007) BR: Romford Antz 12.30pm, 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm Babe: Pig In The City 12noon, 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 8.45pm Blade 9pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 12,20pm, 2,40pm, 4,50pm, 7,10pm, 9,20pm The Mask Of Zorro 2pm, 5,05pm. 8pm Out Of Sight 12,45pm 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm The Parent Trap 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9pm Rush Hour 1pm, 1.45pm, 3.30pm, 4.20pm, 6pm, 7pm, 8.30pm, 9.15pm

ABC (0541-555131) BR: Sidcup Babe: Pig In The City 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm Elizabeth 2.30pm. Smoking Barrels 8.40pm

STAPLES CORNER

VIRGIN (0870-9070717) BR: Cricklewood Antz 2.15pm, 4.30pm. 6.45pm Babe: Pig In The City 1.30pm, 3.45pm, 6pm, 8.15pm Btade 3pm, 3.45pm, 5.45pm, 5.45pm 8.30pm, 11.30pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease 11.30pm The Mask Of Zorro 3pm 6pm. 9pm. 12midnight Out Of Sight 8.45pm, 11.30pm The Parent Trap 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9.05pm Rush Hour 1pm, 4.15pm, 6,40pm, 9.15pm, 12mldnight

STREATHAM ABC (0870-9020415) BR: Streatham Hill Antz 2.15pm. .20pm. 6.30pm, 8.45pm Bat In The City 1.45pm, 4.05pm, 6.25pm Lock, Stock & Two Smok-Ing Barrels 8.40pm Out Of Sight 2.25pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm

ODEON (08705-050007) BR: Streatham Hill Babe: Pig in The City 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7pm Blade 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.40pm The Mask Of Zorro 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm, 1.2midnight The Mask Of Zorro 12midnight The Negotiator 5.20pm, 12midnight The Parent Trap 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Rush Hour 12.20pm, 2.40pm, 5pm, 7.20pm, 9.40pm, 12.10am

STRATFORD NEW STRATFORD PICTURE HOUSE (555 3366) 8R/ \oplus 5tratford East Babe: Pig In The City 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.15pm The Mask Of Zorro 12.10pm, 3pm, 5.50pm. 257pm Out Of Sight 8.45pm Tht Parent Trap 12.25pm, 3.10pm, 5.55pm, 8.30pm Rush Hour 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 6.45pm, 9.10pm

SURREY OUAYS SURREY OUATS
UCI (0990 888990) ← Surrey Quays
Antz 3.45pm, 6.10pm Babe: Fig in
The City 3.15pm, 4.45pm, 5.30pm,
7pm, 7.45pm, 10pm Blade 3.10pm, 30om, 9.10pm, 11.45pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 12mldnight The Mask Of Zorro 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm The Negotiator 8,30pm, 12.10am Out Of Sight 4pm, 6,40pm, 9,30pm The Parent Trap 3pm, 6pm, 8.50pm, 10.50pm Ronin 9.15pm Rush Hour 4pm, 4.45pm, 6.20pm, 7.15pm, 9pm, 9,40pm, 11.30pm, 12midnight There's Something About Mary

TURNPIKE LANE CORONET (0181-888 2519) O Tumpike Lane. Babe: Pig in The City 4pm, 6,20pm, 8,30pm The Mask Of Zorro 4,30pm, 8,10pm Rush Hour 4.10pm, 6.30pm.

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UXBRIDGE (08705-050007) ODEON (00703-03007)
O Uxbridge Babe: Pig in The City
2pm, 4pm, 6pm The Exercist (25th
Anniversary Rerelease) 9.15pm
The Mask Of Zorro 1.40pm. OOEON

5.10pm, 8.50pm

WALTHAMSTOW ABC (0870-9020424) & Walchamstow Central Babe: Pig In The City 2.20pm. 5pm The Negotiator 8pm The Parent Trap 2pm, 5pm, 8pm Rush Hour 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.15pm,

WALTON ON THAMES THE SCREEN AT WALTON (01932-252825) BR: Walton on Thames Babe: Pig in The City 2.25pm, 4.25pm, 6.30pm The Mask Of Zorro 2.20pm, 5.25pm, 8.15pm Out Of Sight 8.30pm

WELL HALL CORONET (0181-850 3351) BR: Eitham Babe: Pig In The City 4pm. 6.20pm, 8.30pm The Parent Trap 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm

WIMBLEDON ODEON (08705-050007) BR/O Wimbledon/ South Wimbledon Antz 12.25pm, 2.15pm, 4pm Babe: Pig In The City 12,15pm, 2.20pm, Pig In The City 12.15pm, 2.20pm, 4.25pm, 6.30pm Blade 11.15pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 11.15pm The Mask Of Zorro 11.45am, 2.30pm, 5.20pm, 8.15pm Out Of Sight 5.55pm, 8.30pm, 11.15pm The Parent Trap 11.45am, 2.35pm, 5.25pm, 8.15pm Ronin 8.30pm Rush Hour 2pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm, 11.20pm Small Soldiers 11.50am

WOODFORD MOODFORD
ABC (0181-989 3483) & South
Woodford Babe: Pig in The City
1,25pm. Apm. 6.20pm Lock, 5tock
& Two Smoking Barrels 8.30pm
The Negotiator 1.40pm. 5pm.
8pm The Parent Trap 2.10pm. 5.30pm, 8,10pm

WOOD GREEN NEW CURZON (0181-347 6664) O Tumpike Lane Jhoole Bole Kauwa Kaate 7.15pm, 10.45pm Kuch Kuch Hota Hal 3.30pm

CINEMA REPERTORY

CINE LUMIERE Queensberry Place 5W7 (0171-838 2144/2146) Requiem: British Premiere + Alain Tanner in Conversation (NC)

THE LUX Hoxton Square N1 (0171-684 020)1 The Falconer (NC) 7pm Optical Sounds: Films With Specially Commissioned Soundtracks (NC) 9pm

NFT South Bank SE1 (0171-928 3232) Eraserhead (18) 6pm Quatermass And The Pft: Roy Ward Baker (15) 2.30pm Interview With Roy Ward Baker (NC) 6.30pm Queen Kelly (NC) 7.30pm At Play In The Fields Of The Lord (NC) 7.45om A Night to Remember: Roy Ward Baker (U) 8.40pm

PRINCE CHARLES Leicester Place WC2 (0171-437 8181) Primary Colors (15) 1pm 5liding Doors (15) 3.45pm Still Crazy (15) 6.30pm Razor Blade Smile (18) 9pm

RIVERSIDE STUDIOS Crisp Road W6 (0171-420 0100) Man Bites Dog (18) 6.45pm + Funny Games (18) 8.45pm

WATERMANS ARTS CENTRE High Street (0181-568 1176) Left Lug-gage (PG) 1.30pm, 8.30pm Les Miserables (12) 1.30pm, 8.15pm Hamam: The Turkish Bath (NC) 6.30pm

BRIGHTON DUKE OF YORK'S (01273-602503) t's A Wonderful Life (U) 1.45pm 6.30pm Dancing At Lughnasa (PG) 4.15pm, 9pm Friday The 13th [18] 11.15pm

BRISTOL CUBE (0114-907 4191) My Name Is Joe (15] 7pm Fear And Loathing In Las Vegas (18) 9pm The Crea-ture From The Black Lagoon - 3-D (PG) 11.30pm

WATERSHED (0117-925 3845) Henry Fool (18] 5.30pm, 8.15pm La Vie Revée Oes Anges (18) 6pm Dancing Ar Lughnasa (PG) 8.30pm Siam (NC) 8.30pm

CAMBRIDGE ARTS CINEMA (01223-504444) Dancing Ar Lughnasa (PG) 1pm, 7.15pm Left Luggage (PG) 3pm, 9.15pm There's Something About

CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE (01222

399666) The Adventures Of Robin Hood (U) 6.15pm Elizabeth (15) .15pm. 8.30pm Henry Fool (18

FILM THEATRE (01473-215544) Funny Garnes (18) 2pm, 6pm, 8.15pm I Want You (18) 6.15pm,

NORWICH CINEMA CITY (01603-622047) The Last Days Of Disco (15) 5.45pm, 11.15pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18) 8.15pm

CINEMA COUNTRYWIDE

BRIGHTON ABC EAST 5TREET (01273-327010]; Antz (PG); Babe: Pig In The City (U); Out Of Sight (15); The Parent Trap (PG): The Prin Egypt (U); Rush Hour (15)

ODEON (01273-207977): Antz (PG): Babe: Pig In The City (U): Blade (18): The Mask Of Zorro (PG): Mulan (U); Out Of Sight (15); The Parent Trap (PG): The Prince Of Egypt (U): Ronin (15): Rush Hour (15): There's Something About Mary (15)

VIRGIN (0541-555145); Antz (PG); Babe: Pig in The City (U): Blade (18): Dr Dolittle (PG): The Mask Of Zorro (PG): Mulan (U): The Negotiator (15): Out Of Sight (15): The Parent Trap (PG); The Prince Of Egypt (U): Roinh (15): Rush Hour (15): Small Soldiers (PG) Hour (15); Small Soldiers (PG)

ODEON (08705-050007); Babe: Pig in The City (U): Blade (18); Dr Dolittle (PG): Godzilla (PG): Lost in Space (PG); The Mask Of Zorro (PG): Muriel's Wedding (15): The Parent Trap (PG): The Prince Of Egypt (U): Rush Hour (15): Small ers (PGI; Toy Story (PG)

PICTURE HOUSE (01392-435522); The Eel (18): Fear And Loathing in Las Vegas (18): Hana-Bi (18): It's A Wonderful Life (U): Little Voice; Special Preview (NC): My Name is Joe (15); The Real Howard

THEATRE

WEST END

Ticket availability details are for today: times and prices for the week; running times include intervals. - Seats at all prices 9 - Seats at some prices O — Returns only Matinees — [1]: Sun, [3]: Tue, [4]: Wed, [5]: Thur, (6]: Pri, [7]: Sat

ALARMS & EXCURSIONS Michael Frayn's new comedy about a dinner party which is toterrupted by mysterious messages stars Felicity Kendal and Josie Lawrence. Glelgud Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065) → Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [5)[7] 3pm. £19.50-£27,50, 130 mins.

DAMADEUS David Suchet stars as Salieri in Peter Shaffer's acclaimed drama. Old Vic The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 7616/cc 420 0000) BR/& Waterloo. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4] 2.30pm, [7] 3pm, £7.50-£30. 180 mlns.

DANNIE Rags to riches story of the perpetually optimistic orphan. Vic-toria Palace Victoria Street, SW1 (0171-834 1317) BR/& Victoria. Tue-Sat 7.30pm. [4][7] 2.30pm, [1] 4pm, £7.50-£32.50. 165 mlns.

O ART Larry Lamb, Jack Dee, Tim Healy in Yasmina Reza's comedy about art and friendship. Wynd-ham's Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736/cc 0171-867 1111) & Leic Sq. Tue-Sat 8pm. [4] 3pm. [7](1) 5pm. £9.50-£27.50. 90

▶ REAUTY AND THE BEAST Lav-ish family musical based on Disney's cartoon version of the favourite fairy tale. Dominion Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-655 1888) ◆ Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm, £18.50-£35, 150 mins.

THE BEST OF TIMES Revuestyle show featuring the songs of Jerry Herman, Vaudeville Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987) BR/& Charing X. Mon-Fri 8pm. Sat 8.30pm. [4][7] 3,30pm, £9.50-£27.50.

● BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Russell's long-running Liverpool musi-cal melodrama about twins who are separated at birth. Phoentx Cha Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1733) ◆ Leic Sq/lott Ct Rd, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, (5) 3pm, [7] 4pm, £11.50-£32,50, 165 mins.

BLUEBIRD AND THE SHINING New drama telling the bleak and vi-olent stories of a cabbie's fares, preceded by a new short. Royal Court Upstairs (at The Ambassadors) West 5treet. WC2 (0171-565 5000) ◆ Leic Sq. Fri-Sat 9pm, 10p-£10, double bill (7.15pm & 9pm performances on same night) £7.50-£15.

• BOOGIE MIGHTS Shane Richie stars in a brand new 1970s musical. Savoy 5trand, WC2 (0171-836 8888/cc 0171-836 0479) ◆ Charing X/Embarkment. Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri-Sat 8.30pm, [6] 5.30pm, [7] 5pm, ends 9 Jan, £11-£28.50. 150 mins.

BRITANNICUS Diana Rigg and Toby Stephens are directed by Jonathan Kent in Racine's tragedy of maternal manipulation. Albery St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730/cc 0171-867 1111) & Leic Sq. Tonight, 7.30pm, ends 12 Dec, £5-£29.50.

 BUDDY Musical biog-show tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly.
 5trand Aldwych, WC2 (0171-930) 8800) & Covent Garden/Charing X. Tue-Thu 8pm, Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30pm, mats [1] 4pm. £10-£27, half price Friday matinees.

D CATS Lloyd Webber's musical version of TS Eliot's poems. New London Parker Street, WC2 (0171-405 0072/cc 0171-404 4079) ⊕ Covent Garden/Holborn, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3][7] 3pm, £12,50-£35, 165 mins.

O CHICAGO Maria Friedman and O CHICAGO Maria Fredman and Peter Davison star in this bit Broad-way musical about two murderous women and their nightchib act. Adel-phi Maiden Lane, WCZ (0171-344 0055) → Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm. [4)[7] 2.30pm, £16-£36 (inc bookng fee). 130 mins.

PCINDERELLA Angela Carter's version of this fairytale is staged by the accidined Improbable Theatre. Lyric Hammersmith King Street. W6 (0181-741 2311) & Hammersmith. Today 1.30pm. ends 9 Jan, £5-£18, concs £6.50.

O THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED) Reduced Shakespeare Company fast forward through 37 plays, Criterion Piccadilly Circus, W1 (0171-369 1747) → Picc Circ. Wed-Sat 8pm, (5) 3pm, (7) 5pm, (1) 4pm, £6-£25, Thu mats - all seats £10.

DR DOLITTLE Phillip Schofield talks to the animals in this new stage adaptation featuring Jim Henson Puppets. London Apollo Ham-mersmith Queen Caroline Street, W6 (0171-416 6022) + Hammers Tue-Sat 7.30pm, (4][7] 2.30pm, £10-£32.50. 150 mins.

 FAME THE MUSICAL High-octane stage version of the TV series charting the highs and lows of a class of young showhiz hopefuls. Prince of Wales Coventry Street, W1 (0171-839 5972) ⊕ Leic Sq/Picc Circ. Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sat

4pm & 8pm, ends 16 Jan, £15-£30. :) GREASE Energetic stage version of the hit film. Cambridge Eartham Street, WC2 (0171-494 5080) & Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30pm.

[4][7] 3pm, £10-£30, 150 mins. • AN IDEAL HUSBAND Christo pher Cazenove and Susannah York in Peter Hall's acclaimed production m rever nau s accumed production of Wilde's comedy. Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue. W1 (0171-494 5045) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £8-£29.50. 165 mlns.

• AN INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen Daldry's widely-acclaimed produc-tion of JB Priestley's thriller Garrick Charing Cross Road, WCZ (0171-494 5085) ← Leic Sq. Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8.15pm. [4] 2.30pm, [7] 5pm, £10.50-£25. 110 mlns.

O JESUS, MY BOY Tom Contistars in John Dowie'a alternative Christmas show. Apollo Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) Picc [1] 3pm & 5pm, £5,50-£18,50.

• KAFKA'S DICK Eric Syles and Julia Mackenzie star in Alan Bennett's comedy about the moribund writer Piccadilly Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734) ⊕ Picc Circ. in rep tonight 8pm, ends 26 Feb, £12-£30.

• LOVE UPON THE THRONE YOUNG VIC STUDIO id Study of the Tasteful look at the Charles and Dison marriage. Comedy Panton Street. 5W1 (0171-369 1731) power of appearance from Strathcona Theatre, Mon-Sat 7,30pm, ends 23 Dec. £8, concs £6 The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363) @ Picc Circ/Leic So. Mon-Sat 8pm. [4][7] 3pm. ends 31 Jan. £6-£25. BR/O Waterloo.

) LES MISERABLES Musical tioo of Victor Hugo's masterpiece. Palace Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-434 0909) ♦ Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm, £7-£35, 195 mins.

MISS SAIGON Musical which resets the Modern Butterfly tragedy to Vietnam. Theatre Royal, Orury Lane Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5060) @ Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4][7] 3pm, £5.75-£35. 165 mins.

THE MOUSETRAP Agatha Christie's whodunnit. St Martin's West Street. WC2 (0171-836 1443) → Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm, [3] 2.45pm, [7] 5pm, £9-£23, 135 mins. O THE PHANTOM OF THE

OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothic musical Her Majesty's Hay-market, SW1 (0171-494 5400/cc 0171-344 44441 @ Pice Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4](7) 3pm, £10-£35. • RENT Musical inspired by La Bo-heme and set in modern day New York Shaftesbury Shaftesbury Av-enue, WC2 (07000-211221) & Hol-

born/fott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, (4[[7] 3pm, £12.50-£32.50, 160 ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE OLMER: Perer Pan Stephen Oliver's music accompanies the tale of the Boy Who Would Not Grow Up, with Michael Bryant as the Story-

teller. In rep tonight 7.15pm. DLYTTELTON: The Prime Of Miss Jean Brodie Fions Shaw stars as the Scottish schoolmistress in this new adaptation of the classic novel by Mariel Spark in rep tonight 7.30pm ends 12 Dec. 155 mins,

O COTTESLOE: Copenhagen New drama from Michael Frayn about the discovery of the atom. In rep conight 7.30pm, ends 27 Jan. 145 mins. Olivier & Lyttelton: £8-£27, Cottesloe: £12-£19. Day seats from 10am. South Bank, SE1 (0171-452 3000).

ROYAL SHAMESPEARE COMPANY THE BARBICAN: The Merchant Of Venice RSC production of Shakespeare's drama about love and money. In rep tonight 7.15pm,

THE PIT: Shadows: Riders To The Sea & The Shadows: rocers to the Sea & The Shadows of The Glen & Purgatory Triple-bill of drama by WB Yeats and JM Synge. In rep tonight 7,15pm. Barbican Theatre: £5-£26. The Pit: £11-£18.50. Barbican Centre, £C2 (0171-638 8891), BR/O Barbicar/Moorgate. O SATURDAY MIGHT FEVER Hit

1970s musical featuring legendary songs plus three new tracks by the es and starring Adam Garcia. London Palladium Argyll Street, W1 (0171-494 5020) & Oxford Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4]]7] 2.30pm, £10-£32.50, 135 mins. THE SNOWMAN Awardwinning production of Raymond

Briggs's cootemporary classic. Sadler's Wells At The Peacock Portugal 5treet, WC2 (0171-863 8222) → Holborn/Temple_Tonight 7.30pm. ends 30 Jan. £7.50-£32.50. . STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musical Apollo Victoria

Wilton Road, SW1 (0171-416 6070) BR/O Victoria. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3][7] 3pm, £12.50-£30, 150 mins. THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE Belinda Lang stars in Alan Aychiouru's comedy. Duchess Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5075/cc 0171-344 4444) & Covent Garden, Mon-

7.45pm, [5](7) £15-£27.50. 140 mins. TRADE AND IN THE FAMILY Depiction of a dysfunctional family from Richard Oberg. Preceded by a short. Royal Court Upstairs (at The adors) West Street, WCZ (0171-565 5000) & Lek Sq. Fri-Sat 7.15pm, 10p-£10, double bill

17.15pm & 9pm performances on same night) £7.50-£15. THE WEIR Copor McPherson's drama is set in Ireland and examines ideas of ghosts and angels. Royal Court Downstairs (at the Duke Of York's) 5t Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-565 5000) & Lek Sq/Char-

ing X. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [4](7] 3.30pm, £5-£25. 90 mins. WEST SIDE STORY Brand new productioo of Bernstein's classic musical, attempting to recreate the feel of the original Broadway hit Prince Edward Old Compton Street.
W1 (0171-447 5400) & Left Sq/Rxt

Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm, £15-£35. 160 mins. O WHISTLE DOWN THE WINO Lloyd Webber's new musical based on the film of the same name about two children who mistake and escaped convict for Jesus. Aldwych Aldwych. WC2 (0171-416 6000/cc 0171-836 24281 @ Holborn, Mon-

Sat 7.45pm. (5)[7] 3pm, £10-£32.50. 120 mins. P THE WOMAN IN BLACK Stage adaptation of Susan Rill's chillingly effective ghost story. For-ture Russell Street, WC2 (0171-836 2238/cc 0171-344 44441 O Covent Garden/Holborn, Mon-Sat 8pm, (3) 3pm, [7] 4pm, £8.50-£23.50, 110 mins.

THEATRE BEYOND THE WEST END

ALMEIDA THEATRE The Storm Frank McGuinness' new version of Ostrovsky's unlifting drama. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. mats Sat 3pm. ends 19 Dec. £6.50-£19.50. Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404) & Angel/High-

bury & Islington. CANAL CAFE THEATRE Silent Night Steven Berkoff's tale of Christ-mas loneliness receives its stage pre-miere. Tue-Sat 8pm, ends 12 Dec. £6. concs £4. Bridge House Pub, De-lamere Terrace, W2 (0171-289

6054) ← Royal Oak/Marwick Avenue. HAMPSTEAD THEATRE Little Malcolm and His Struggle Against the Euruchs Ewan McGregor stars as the revolutionary activist in David Halliwell's drama. Mon-Sat 8pm. mats Sat 3.30pm, ends 2 Jan. £9-£16, concs £6. Avenue Road, NW3

(0171-722 9301) → Swiss Cottage. YOUNG VIC Arabian Nights Collection of magical Eastern tales edapted for the stage by Dominic Cooks. Tonight 7pm, continuing. £7-£18. The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363)

Astoria, 157 Charing Cross Road, London W1 (0171-434 0403) tonight

EXHIBITIONS

FOLLOWING A highly successful run on BBC2, Goodness

Gracious Me (right) follows in the steps of The Fost

Show and embarks on a live national tour. The Anglo-

Asian sketch show employs a range of shocking comic

characters and offers a wry often sly view of British

culture from an Asian perspective. Written by Meera

Syal, Sanjeev Bhasker, Nina Wadia and Kurvinder Ghir.

Cardiff St David's Hall (01222 878444) 24 Feb; Reading

Hexagon (0118-960 6060) 25 Feb; Nottingham Royal

Centre (0115-989 5555) 26 Feb; High Wycombe Swan

(01494 512000) 27 Feb; Northampton Derngate (01604

624811) 1 Mar, Southend Cliffs Pavilion (01702 351135)

2 Mar, London Hackney Empire (0181-985 2424) 4 Mar,

NEW MODEL ARMY have championed the post-punk

Goth genre, with militant anthems such as "Spirit of the

Falklands" and their working-class themes. Since the

1980s they have maintained credibility by crafting

emotional and poignant lyrics and despite lacking chart

success, they still attract fans from all musical factions.

Watford Colosseum (01923 445000) 15 Mar

THEATRE ROYAL Richard III Robert Lindsay stars as the historical villain. 11 & 12 Dec. 7.30pm. £10-£25. concs available. Sawclose (01225

THEATRE

COUNTRYWIDE

First Call

BLACKFRIARS ARTS CENTRE Sleeping Beauty Traditional panto about the slumbering princess. Today 10am, ends 3 Jan. £7, concs £6. Spain Lane (01205-363108)

BRIGHTON THEATRE ROYAL Mother Goose Christopher Biggins is Mother Goose. Tonight 7,30pm, ends 9Jan. £7,50-£12,50. comes available. Bond Street (01273-328488)

GARDNER ARTS CENTRE The Wind in the Willows Kenneth Grahame's enchanting tale of riverlife is adapted for the stage. Today 10.30am & 2.30pm, ends 2 Jan. E6.96-E8.95, concs available. University of Sussex, Lewes Road (01273-685861)

BRISTOL
THEATRE ROYAL Mother Goose Panto extravaganza about the fabled fowl. Tonight 7.15pm, ends 30 Jan. £3-£16. King Street (0117-987

CANTERBURY MARLOWE THEATRE Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs Ex-Blue Peter presenter Tim Vincent gets festive. Today 2.30pm & 7pm, ends 17 Jan. £8-£15, concs available. The Friars (01227-787787)

SHERMAN THEATRE The Secret Seven Save the World New adventure, courtesy of Enid Blyton, and set in 1999, Today 10 am & 2pm, ends 9 Jan. £6-£10, concs available, Sen-ghenydd Road (01222-230451)

CHELTENHAM

Princesses, pagodas and antics in Peking. Tonight 2.15pm & 7.15pm. ends 16 Jan. £4.50-£13. Regent Street (01242-572573) CHIPPING NORTON CHIPPING NORTON THEATRE AL Baba and the 40 Thleves Panto

EVERYMAN THEATRE Aladdin

taken from the Arabian Nights. 11 Dec. 5pm & 7.30pm, ends 16 Jan. £7.75-£14.75. Spring Street (01608-NORTHCOTT THEATRE Dick Whittington Follow the penniless here as he searches for the streets paved

with gold. Today 1,30pm & 7.30pm, ends 16 Jan. £7-£15. Stocker Road YVONNE ARNAUD THEATRE Jack Tim Brooke-Taylor and Robert Tim Brooke 1aylor and Robert Powell join Are You Being Served's Trevor Bannister Today 2.30pm & 7pm, ends 3 Jan. £9.50-£17.50, concs available, Millbrook (01483-

WYCOMBE SWAN Jack and the nstalk Jean Boot, Michael Elphick Peter Duncan and Bonnie Langford star. Tonight 7pm, ends 17 Jan. £8.50-£15.50. St Mary's Street

(01494-512000) APOLLO THEATRE Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream-coat Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical version of the Bible story, 11 Dec, 5pm & 8pm, 12 Dec, 8pm, £8.50-£21.50, concs available. George Street (01865-

PETERBOROUGH KEY THEATRE Dick Whittington venture story full of comedy, music and magic. Ionight 6.30pm, con-tinuing. £5.75-£9.75, concs avail-able. Embankment Road (01733-552439)

SALISBURY PLAYHOUSE Aladdir Magic carpet ride to Peking and the land of Emperor Foo Wiff Pong. To-day 2.15pm, continuing. £8-£12.50. ics available. Malthouse Lane (01722-320333)

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE
The Winter's Tale Seasonal tale of obsessive jealousy. Tonight 7,30pm, ends 26 Feb. £7-£30. Waterside (01789-295623) SWAN THEATRE A Month in the Country Brian Friel's adaptation of Turgenev's portrait of all-consuming sexual desire. Michael Attenbor-

ough directs. Tonight 7.30pm, ends THEATRE ROYAL Puss in Boots Genial weatherman Ian McCaskill is joined by panto veterans Rod Rull and Erns. Today 4.30pm & 7.45pm, ends 16 Jan. £6.50-£23, concs avaitable. Thames Street

(01753-853888) WINDSOR ARTS CENTRE bond De-piction of two contrasting men. Tonight 8pm. E6. concs £4. St Leonards Road (01753-859336)

CLASSICAL

FIRST CALL, LAST CALL

HOLBURNE MUSEUM AND CRAFTS STUDY CENTRE M Weaver: Peter Collingwood Major exhibition exploring Collingwood's in-novative work. Mon-Sat 1 lam-5pm. Sun 2.30pm-5.30pm, ends 11 Dec. E3.50, OAP E3. UB40/60+ £2, child £1.50, family £7 (to museum). Great Pulteney Street (01225-463362)

BRIGHTON BRIGHTON MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY Maquettes: Henry Moore Maquettes, working models and graphics exhibition marking the centenary of his birth. Mon. Tue. Thur-Sat 10am-5pm, 5un 2pm-5pm, ends 10 Jan, free. Church Street (01273-290900)

CARDIFF NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WALES Kallghat Icons Watercolours chart-ing the last days of the British occupation of India, Tue-Sun 1 Qam-5pm, ends 3 Jan. £4.25, concs £2.50, family £9.75 (to museum). Cathays Park (01222-397951)

DULWICH PICTURE GALLERY Permanent Collection Fine selec-tion of paintings from the 17th to 19th century. Tue-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat & Bank Hols 11am-5pm, Sun 2pm-5pm, E3, OAP/NUS £1.50, UB40/disabled/child/Fri free, College Road, SE21 (0181-693 5254) BR West Outvich/North Dulwich

ICA GALLERY Die Young Stay Pretty Sculpture, college, paintings and cut outs by 11 young romantic artists. Mon-Sun 12noon-7.30pm, ends 10 Jan, £1.50, concs £1, Sat-Sun £2.50, concs £1.50. The Mall, SW1 (0171-930 3647) + Charing Cross.

NATIONAL GALLERY Mirror Image: Jonathan Miller on Reflection Reflections in art from Van Evck to Belen Chadwick, Ends 13 Dec. £5.50. cones £3.50, Incl audio guide. Luca Signorelli in British Collections Drawings and paintings by the artist. Mon & Tue. Thur-Sat 10am-6pm. Wed 10am-8pm, Sun 12noon-6pm (closed 24-26 Dec. 1 Jan). ends 31 Jan, free. Trafalgar Square, WC2 (0171-839 3321) & Charing Cross.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS Criticat Mass: Antony Gormley Sixty casts of human bodies. Mon-Sun all day, ends 16 Dec, free.

Picasso: Painter and Sculptor in Clay Ceramic works by the 20th-tentury artist. Mon-Thur, Sat & 5un 10am-6pm, Fri 10am-8.30pm, ends 16 Dec. £7, OAP/UB40 £6, NU5 £5, child 12-18 £2.50, child 8-11 £1. 100 Masterpleces of Imperial Chi-nese Ceramics from the Au Bak Ling Collection Porcelain from the Sing, Yuan, Ming and Quing dynas-ties. Mon-Thur, Sat & 5un 10am-6pm, Fri 10am-6pm, ends 20 Dec. £3, concs £2.50, child (8-18) £1. Life? Or Theatre?: The Work of Charlotte Salomon Powerful pa ings made between 1940 and 1942. 10am-8.30pm, ends 17 Jan. £5.50, UB40/OAP £4.50, NUS £4, child 12-18 £2.50, child 8-11 £1. Burlington

House. Piccadilly. W1 (0171-300 8000) ⊕ Green Park. TATE GALLERY Turner Prize 1998 Work by Chris Ofili, Cathy De Mon-chaux, Tacita Dean and Sam Taylor-Wood. Ends 10 Jan. £1.50. John Singer Sargent Comprehen-sive exhibition devoted to the paint-ings of the 19th-century artist. Ends 17 Jan. £6, concs £4.

ing - Jean-Marc Bustamante Installation exploring cities to photographs, Ends 31 Jan, free. Turner in the Alps Works on paper made on Turner's first Alpine trip in 1802. Ends 14 Feb, free. In Celebration: The Art of the Country House Including work by Canaletto, Stubbs and Holbein, Mon-Sun

10am-5.50pm, ends 28 Feb, free. Millbank, SW1 (0171-887 8000) WHITECHAPEL ART GALLERY Ros-marie Trockel Mixed-media works by the influential artist. Tue, Thur-Sun by the influential artists. 100, 111 11am-5pm, Wed 11am-8pm. ends 7 Feb. free. Whitechapel High Street, F1 (0171-522 7888) E1 (0171-522 Standard East.

MAIDSTONE MAIDSTONE MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY The Disparates: Goya Late satirical etchines by the Span-Sun 11am-4pm, closed 25-27 Dec, ends 3 Jan, phone for prices. 5t Faith's 5treet (01622-754497)

OXFORD MUSEUM OF MODERN ART GUStav Metzger Work by the artist known for the Destruction in Art Symposium in 1966, Tue-Sun 11am-6pm (Thur to 9pm), ends 10 Jan. \$2.50 (free Wed am & Thur pm), concs £1.50, child free. Pembroke

ST IVES TATE GALLERY Displays 1998-9: Partnerships and Practice Paintings and ceramics from the second half of the century. English Roots: Eric Cameron Thou-sands of layers of paint surrounding organic objects. Quoit Montserrat: Veronica Ryan

Marble sculpture linking St Ives with Montserrat in the West Indies.

Mon-Sat 11am-7pm. Sun 11am-5pm, ends 11 Apr. £3.50, concs £2. Porthmeor Beach (01736-796226)

Street (01865-722733)

LONDON

BARBICAN HALL The
Sixteen/Christophers Handel's orstorio The Messiah. Tonight 7pm.
E10-£30. Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891) @ Barbican.

PURCELL ROOM Feinstein Ensemble of London/Fetnstein Baroque Coocertos by Back, Tele-mann and Vivaldi. Tonight 7.30pm. £6-£12. South Bank, S£1 (0171-960 4242) BR/@ Waterloo.

HOLYWELL MUSIC ROOM Oxford Company of Musicians Tries by Zeminsky, Brahms and Hugh Wood. Tonight 7.30pm, £8, concs £6. Holywell Street (01865-261384)

OPERA

LONDON LONDON COLISEUM Borls Godunov Mussorgsky's epic in a new English National Opera productioo directed by Francesca Zambello. Tonight 7,30pm. £5-£55, 5t. Mar-tin's Lane, WC2 (0171-632 8300) Deicester Square/Charing Cross.

formers create a witty rhythi

THE SPACE ARTS CENTRE Protein Dance Company: Duel, The Last Sleep Protein Dance Company present Dendly White and Duel. Tonight 8pm. £6, concs £4. West Ferry Road, £14 (0171-515 2453) DLR: Mudchute.

PLYMOUTH THEATRE ROYAL Rambert Dance Company: Cruel Garden Evocation e life and work of Federico Ga cia Lorca through dance, text and song. Tonight 7.30pm. £14-£20. Royal Parade South (01752-267222)

LITERATURE

TORA! TORA! TORA! Christian Smith, Salina Saliva, Tim Turnbull and Jem Rolls weave a web of words. with live music and a performance from Indian dancer Vidya. Union Chapel Studio Theatre Compton Terrace N1 (0171-226 1686)

Highbury & Islington. Tonight
9pm-12midnight, £6, concs £5.

IAN HISLOP BOOK SIGNING Privote Eue editor Ian, well known for appearances on Hove I Got News for You. signs the 1998 Private Eve Annual. W H 5mith (King's Cross) King's Cross Station N1 (0171-837 5580) BR: King's Cross. Tonight 5pm-6pm, free.

COMEDY

LONDON JONGLEURS BATTERSEA Inventive comic Jim Tavare, Phil Davey, Per-ner nominee Ed Byrne, Kevin Gildea, Sean Meo. Tonight 8.45pm, Laven-der Gardens. 5W11 (0171-564 2500) 8R: Clapham Junction, £12,

THE COMEDY STORE The Best In Stand Up with Rhona Cameron, juggling comic Steve Rawlings, Boothby Graffoe, Ian Stone, MC John Moloney, Tonight Spm & 12 mid-night, Owendon Street, SW1 (01426-914433) & Piccadilly Circus, £12. concs £7 late show only.

MILTON KEYNES JEREMY HARDY AT WOUGHTON CENTRE Award winning contedy from this Radio and TV regular Toright 3pm. Chaffron Way (01908-660392) £8.50.

BOURNEMOUTH Glamorous party night with Pete Tong Tonight 9pm-3am, £8, £6 be-fore 10pm. Christchurch Road

UNIVERSITY OF DUB AT THE

FRISKY AT THE MUNISTRY OF SOUNO With Lee Burridge, Lisa Loud, Smokin Jo, Paul Jackson and Craig Richards. Tonight 10.30pm-6am, Gaunt Street, 5E1 (0171-378 6528) ◆ Elephant & Castle, £10.

EVENTS

BROADCLYST
WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP
Learn to make beautiful traditional
Christmas decorations. Killerton House and Garden (01392-881345) 10am-12noon & 2pm-881345) 10am-1210001 4pm. ends 12 Dec. £8.50. booking

DORCHESTER
TEDDY BEAR HOUSE At Home with

LONDON THE GREAT CHALLENGE 1998 Inernational political cartoon exhibition, in aid of Amnesty International, Index on Censorship and the Cartoon Art Trust. The Gallery, Oxo Tower Wharf ground floor Bargehouse 5treet 5E1 (0171-928 6193) & Waterloo. Mon-5un 10am-6pm, ends 23 Dec. free (donations welcome).

MUSIC

DANCE

ROUNDHOUSE Stomp Eight per-Symphony, Tue-Sat 8pm, mats Sat & Sun 4pm, ends 27 Dec. £10-£25. Chalk Farm Road, NW1 (0171-420 0000) & Chalk Farm.

songstress reinvented in a more ca-sual guise. Colston Hall Colston 5treet (0117-922 3686/cc 922 3683) Tonight 8pm, £10.

JOHN DOWIE The author of Jesus My Boy reads from the play and other works. The Bull Theatre Gallery Studios High Street (0181-449 0048) → High Barnet. Tonight 8pm. £7. concs £5.

CLUBS

BRIXTON RECREATION CENTRE Starring Aba-Shanti-I, Entenbe Sound and Jah Youth. Tonight 9pm-6am, Brixton Station Road, SW9 (0171-926 9780) + Brixton. £10,

the Edward Bear family, human-sized teddies. Teddy Bear House An-telope Walk (01305-263200) Mon-Sat 9.30am-5pm, Sun 10am-4,30pm, not 25 & 26 Dec, ends 31 Dec 52, child 51, family £5,50. Dec. £2, child £1, family £5,50.

BRIGHTON MASSIVE ATTACK The hallowed Bristol dub dance team take their

Mezzanine sounds on the round. Brighton Centre Kings Road (0870-900 9100) Tonight 7pm. £16.50. BRISTOL PJ HARVEY, DIRTY THREE The dark

> LONDON PAUL WELLER, OCEAN COLOUR
> SCENE Big chundering rock-outheadliners play 8 benefit concert
> for homeless charily Crisis. Briaton Academy Stockwell Road SW9 (0171-771 2000) BR/O Brixton. Tonight 7.30pm, £21.50.

LES RYTHMES DIGITALES Freaked disco and hip hop from live dance types. The End West Central Street WC1 (0171-419 9199) & Toucaham

JOOLS HOLLAND AND HIS RHYTHM AND BLUES ORCHES-TRA Boogle-woogle revivalist at the helm of his R&B big band. Royal */
thval Halt South Bank 5E1 (01)4-960 4242) BR/O Waterloo, Tonight 7.30pm, £17.50-£20.

Court Road. Tonight 10pm, £10.

SOUREZE, DEAN JOHNSON Difford and Tilbrook, on the road for a comensive UK tour. Shepherd's Bush Empire Shepherd's Bush Green W12 (0171-771 2000) ⊕ Shepherd's Bush. Tonight 8pm, £14. JAMES, STEREOPHONICS Tim

Booth's vital pop band cyclebrate the success of their recent greatest hits al-

PLYMOUTH DURAN OURAN Hits tour for the

MUSIC JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK

PLATPUS Powerful trumpeter Ger-ard Presencer's jazz and fink mixture. Brighton Jazz Club - The Lift Queen's Road. Tonight 8pm, £6 concs £5.

STEVE KNIGHTLEY, PETRA STAPP Solo gig by the talented singer and songwriter from top British folk duo Show of Hands. 12 Bar Club Denmark Place WC2 (0171-916 6989) & Tottenham Court Road, Tonight 8pm, £9 WATERSON: CARTHY English folk from Mercury Music Prize nominee Norma Waterson, her equally high regarded husband, Martin Carthy regarded nuscand, martin Carthy, and their daughter, Eliza Carthy, Blackheath Halls Lee Road 5E3 (0181-463 0100) BR: Blackheath.

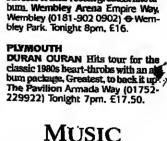
onight 8pm. £12.50, concs £10. ROBIN WILLIAMSON Magical Celtic folk music from the former incredible String band frontman. King's Head, Crouch End Crouch End Hill N8 (0181-340 1028) & Finsbury Park/BR: Crouch Hill, Tonight 8,30pm, £6.

ANTONIO FORCIONE An impressive blend of Latin and jazz by this contemporary guitarist. Pizza Express Jazz Club Dean Street W1 (0171-439 8722) O Tottenham Court Road, Tonight 9pm, Fri/Sat £15, 5un £12-50. MILTON KEYNES

BEST OF BRITISH JAZZ British hardys such as Don Lusher, Kenny Baker and Jack Parnell swing in style. The Stables Stockwell Lane, Navendon (01908-583928) Tonight, 8.15pm, £9, £12, £15. NORWICH

A JOURNEY THROUGH JAZZ Guitarist Dix Dixley stars with Tad Newton's mainstream team, Norwich Playhouse St. Georges Street (01603-766466) Tonight 8pm, £10, concs £8.

مكذا من الاجل



SATELLITE TV, RADIO/19

FRIDAY RADIO

97.6-99.8MHz FM) .30 Zoe Ball. 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Mark Goodier, 2.00 Mark Radcliffe. 4.00 Chris Moylee. 5.45 Newsbeat. 6.00 Pete Tong's Essential Selection, 9.00 Judge Jules. 11.00 Westwood - Radio 1 Rap Show. 2.00 Fabio and Grooverlder. 4.00 Emma B.

RADIO 2

REVIEW Gember 1998

VENTS

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(88-90.2MHz FM) 6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce: Classic hits, new chart breakers. love songs, the Headline Hunt and the PopMaster quiz. Call 0171 765 5682. 12.00 Jimmy Young. 2.00 Ed Stewart: Enterteinment news, a Brain Buster, the Friday final of the Accumulator Quiz and regular travel updates. 5.05 Des Lynam: Guests, sports news and music. 7.00 Hubert Gregg: Says 'Thanks tor the Memory' and adde a few personal reminiscences 7.30 Friday Night Is Music Night: Live from the Hippodrome, Golders Green, London. Edwerd Warren conducts the BBC Concert Orchestra, with guests the BBC Radio 2 Choristars of the Year Eloise Irving and James Fox. Including Howard Blake's fantasy 'The Snowman', narrated by Brian Kay. At 8.15, the interval item is performed by the Monteverdi Choir. 15 Wuthering Heights. 9.30 Listen to the Band. 10.00 David Jacobs. 10.30 Sheridan Morley. 12.00 Lynn Parsons. 4.00 -6.00 Lata Sharma,

RADIO 3 (90.2-92.4MHz FM) 6,00 On Air. 9.00 Masterworks. 10.30 Artist of the Week. **1L00** Sound Stories. See Pick of 12.00 Composer of the Week; El-1.66 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Con-

2.00 The BBC Orchestras. 4.60 Music Restored. 4.45 Music Machine. 5.00 in Tune.

7.30 Performance on 3. On the of Elliott Carter's birthday, Ensemble InterContemporain perform his Clarinet Concerto and a new piece composed by Philippe

6.00 The Princess Bride (1987) (63017).

Associate (1996) (24850). 5.00 Tom Be-

harsers two Lovers (1979) (53492), 7.00 Pro

Movie Magic (1256). 8.30 Happy Gilmore

1996) (55256) 10.00 Private Parts (1996)

(14527). See Pick of the Day. 12.00 Eddle

Murphy Raw (1987) (72657). 1.30 Lenny Live and Unleashed (1989) (792657). 3.10 -

4.00 King Kong (1933) (7701459), 6.00 The Spy With A Cold Nose (1966) (9100121).

8.00 Town on Trial (1957) (9112966). 10.00

Legend of Hell House (1973) (3275416), 3.40

The Directors (3122589). 4.30-5.35 House

652 Short Attention Span Cineme (22-0362). 8.00 Circle of Friends (1995)

(2249879). **10.00** Ages of Lulu (1990)

4547850). **1.10** Red Rock West (1992)

4.00 Rex Hunt's Fishing World (8146782).

18165461 6.00 Animal Doctor (8163459).

Titanic (5846850). 9.00 The World's Most

6.30 Gorfflas: Tender Giants (Wild Dis-

coveryj (2816072). 7.30 Beyond 2000 (6143695). 8.00 The Best of Discovery:

Dangerous Animals (5866614). 10.00

Weapons of War (2812427). 12.00 Real

Empire of the East (5869701). 11.00

4.30 Walker's World (8142966). 5.00

(4702701), 11.40 Jamon Jamon (1992)

(5793386) 2.45 Onibaba (1964)

the Opera (1925) (3272218).

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

of Seven Gables (1940) (80324980).

Breakout (1975) (4562459). **11.40** To Live and Die in LA (1985) (9528140). **1.35** The

6.00 The Adventures of Ford Fairlane

(1990) (79374294).

SKY CINEMA

PICK OF THE DAY

SOUND STORIES (11am R3), a week of playwrights who have Strictly Conventional 111em inspired musicians ends with Bertolt Brecht, who may not bave been much to look at Investigators. ideologically or personally, but did provide Kurt Weill and for some memorable music. Naturally, we get Lotte Lenya The Seven Deadly Sins.

a work by Pierre Boulez which in-

cludes three pianos, three harps

and three percussion instruments.

Introduced by Brian Morton. Alain

terContemporain/David Robertson,

Menoury: Fragments pour un por-

treit. Boulez: Sur incises (lirst per-

9.25 Postscript. Four illustrated

book 'The Scent of Dried Roses'

traces his working-class Southall

background after the suicide his

mother. He describes the kitsch

9.45 Beethoven. Piano Sonata in

10.00 Hear and Now. More trom

the annual fastival of new music in

Huddersfield. Tonight, one of Arvo

Part's most sustained and fervent

pentance', performed by the voic-

choral works; the 'Canon of Re-

es for whom it was written - the

Estoian Philharmonic Chamber

Choir, conductor Tonu Kaljuste.

12.00 Composer of the Week:

1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night,

6.00 Today. 9.00 NEWS; Desert Island Discs.

11.00 NEWS; Strictly Convention-

9.45 Serial: Charles Dickens:

10-00 NEWS; Woman's Hour.

al. See Pick of the Day.

Presented by Verity Sharp.

11.30 Punk Jazz.

(92.4-94.6MHz FM)

Mozart, (R)

RADIO 4

Journalist.

his generation has lived with.

F. Op 54. Altred Brendel.

reflections on kitsch. 4: Tim Lott's

Damiens (clarinet), Ensemble In-

Carter: Clarinet Concerto.

If that doesn't appeal, try R4) in which Quentin Cooper meets the Association of British

Bookclub (4pm R4) has A S Byatt (right) talking ebout her Hanns Eisler with the material Booker Prize winning novel. Possession - to which the biography of a Victorian poetaster in The Threepenny Opera and has resonances in our own time. ROBERT HANKS



Manoury plus a world premiere of 11.30 The Smart Couple. 12.00 NEWS; You and Yours. 12.57 Weather 1.00 The World at One 1.30 Screen Test. 2.00 NEWS: The Archers. 2.15 Afternoon Play: Showing Up.

> 3.00 NEWS; Making History. 3.30 Coffee - e Hellish Brew. 3.45 Feedback. 4.00 NEWS; Bookclub. See Pick of the Day. 4.30 The Message 5.00 PM.

5.57 Weather 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.30 True Lies. 7.00 NEWS; The Archers.

7.15 Front Row, Francine Stock chairs the arts programme. 7.45 Still Waters. Part 20 by Ann Marie Di Membro and Cally Phillips. Kate's birthday looms and Charlie has a proposal. Meanwhile, an encounter with the mysterious Viska has e profound effect on Douglas, and Frenkie Callaghan hes big plans for Joenna. With Ann Scott-Jonas, Emma Currie and Llam Brennan, Director David Jackson Young.

8.00 NEWS; Any Questions?. Jonathan Dimbleby is joined in Morpeth, Northumberland, by panellists including Dr Kenneth Calman, Alan Duncan MP and John Swinney MP of the SNP. 8.45 Letter from America, Alistair Cooke with another slice of Ameri-

9.00 NEWS; The Friday Play: The Grey Men. By Gill Adams, Betty

and John Wilkinson both live a lie. Their son Johnny is dying in California. John reluctantly goes out to bury him. When he arrives, he hides at the back in his old shabby clothes. He has to face Betty on his return. With James Bolam and Rachel Davies. 10.00 The World Tonight, With

Robin Lustig. 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Spiderweb. By Penelope Lively, read by Stephenie Cole (5/10). 11.00 Late Tackle. Eleanor Oldroyd hosts the late-night sports chat show.

11.30 The Khen Dynasty. 12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book: Human

12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 Leisure Update. 5.56 - 6.00 Weather. **RADIO 4 LW**

(198kHz) 9.45 - 10.00 An Act of Worship. 12-00 - 12-04 News Headlines: Shipping Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast. 11.30 - 12.00 Today in Parliament. 12.30 - 7.30 Test Match Special. RADIO 5 LIVE

(693, 909kHz MW 6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 Nicky Campbell. 12-00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ruscoe and Co.

4.00 Drive 7.00 News Extra. 7.30 Alan Green's Sportsnight. Alan Green and his sporting quests look back at the week's stories and preview the weekend's action. Plus coverage of the night's Nationwide League Division One game between Bury end Sheffield United.

10.00 Late Night Live. Insight and comment on the dey's big issues with Brian Hayes. Including Papertalk. 10.30 Sport. 11.00 News. 11.15 The Financial World Tonight. 1.00 Up All Night. 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports.

Classic FM (100.0-101,9MHz FM 6.00 Nick Bailey. 8.00 Henry Kelly. 12.00 Requests. 2.00 Concerto: Ville-Lobos: Guitar Concerto, John Williams, ECO/Deniel Berenboim. 3.00 Jamie Crick. 6.30 Newsnight, 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert: Pfitzner; Prelude to Act (Paleetrina). German Opera Orchestra, Berlin/Christian Thielemann. Beethoven: Plano Concerto No 1 in C. Maurizio Pollini, Berlin PO/Claudio Abbado, Schubert: Symphony No 6 in C. D589, Berlin PO/Daniel Barenboim. Revel: Bolero, Berlin PO/Herbert von Karajan, 11.00 Alan Mann. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 Mark Griffiths. VIRGIN RADIO

(1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 105,8MHz FM) 6.30 Chris Evans. 9.30 Russ Williams, 1.00 Nick Abbot, 4.00 Bobby Hain. 7.00 Wheels of Steel 11.00 Janey Lee Grace. 2.00 - 6.00 Richard West.

WORLD SERVICE RADIO (198kHz LW) 1.00 Newsdesk, 1.30 To Be Con-

tinued. 1.45 Poems by Post. 2.00 Newsday. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News, 3.05 World Business Report. 3.15 Sports Roundup. 3.30 Science in Action, 4.00 Newsdesk, 4.30 Weekend, 5.00 Newsday, 5.30 Outlook. 5.55 - 6.00 Spotlight.

TALK RADIO 6.00 Bill Overton and Clare Catford, 9.00 Scott Chisholm, 12.00 Lorraine Kelly. 2.00 Anna Raeburn. 4.00 Peter Deeley. 5.00 The Sports Zone. 9.00 Mike Allen, 2.00 - 8.00 Mike Dickin.

INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

CHESS JON SPEELMAN

WITH JUST over a week to go in the Onyx Grand Prix, there's still time for the three leaders, Mark Hebden on 190.6/200, Keith Arkell, 190.2, and Jim Plaskett, 189.3, to take part in some final skirmishes before Ragnarok at Islington next weekend. Rumour has it that one or more of them will be in action in Golders Green on Saturday and/or Nuneaton on Sunday: and e perfect score - but only a perfect score - at either would certainly be invaluable.

The sheer volume of chess required by the Grand Prix is such that you couldn't expect, and indeed it would be counter-productive for, the leading players to put maximal effort into every game. They therefore generally use their "autopilots" against weaker opponents. Unfortunately. Jim Plaskett's "George" seems to have become a little jaded, for be dropped vital balf-points against weaker opposition both et the Spectrum Clevedon Open in Bristol and at the 45th Hertfordshire Congress last Saturday. But he has continued to perform excellently on full throttle against more serious opposition.

This important victory at Hertfordshire was in the fourth round, when Plaskett had already conceded his draw - in the first round, to Stephen Peters from Aylesbury: but Arkell was still on course for a maximum

Plaskett went on to win with 4.5/5 while Arkell was second on 4. 13 e3 Qe5 In the Leningrad Dutch, Block 14 0-0 a6 sacrifices structure - a weak e6 square – for activity. After Arkell at- 16 Bxe4 fxe4 tacked with 10 h4!?, Black's struc- 17 Qc2 Nd7 ture was further compromised, but the fine pawn sacrifice 15... Ne4! created excellent white square play 20 e4 Bh7 after Arkell took it. Instead, he 21 Rad1 b5!

should have played 16 Nab1! when



piece with advantage. 21... b5! created still more play. In the diagram, if 28 Nxe7+ Kf7 29 Nf5 Bxf5 30 exf5 Ne3+ 31 Kg1 Nxd1 32 Rxd1 Kg8 33 f6 b4 34 Bd2 Rxf6 is winning. 31 dxe6 was desperate and Plaskett cleaned up easily. If 40 R1xd2 Re1+ 41 Kg2 Rg1 would be mate.

> White: Keith Arkell Black: Jim Plaskett Hertfordshire 1998 Leningrad Dutch

1 Nf3 d6

22 cxb5 Nf3+ 2 d4 f5 23 Kg2 Nd4 24 Nc4 Nxc2 3 b3 g6 4 Bb2 Bg7 25 Nxa5 axb5 26 Nc6 Bxc3 5 c4 Nf6 6 Nc3 0-0 27 Bxc3 Rxa2 (see diagram) 7 g3 Qe8 8 d5 h6 28 Bd2 Bxe4+ 9 Bg2 g5 29 Kg1 Kh7 10 h4!? g4 30 Bc1 e6 11 Nd4 c5 31 dxe6 Bxc6 12 Ndb5 Qd8 32 Rxd6 Nd4 33 e7 Re8 34 Be3 Nf3+ 15 No3 Ne4! 35 Kh1 Ne5+ 36 Kg1 Rxe7 37 Bxc5 Nf3+ 18 Nxe4 Ne5 38 Khi Bh7 19 Nc3 Bf5 39 Rfd1 Rd2 40 R6xd2 Nxd2+ 41 Kg1 Rd7 0-1

if 16... Nxc3 17 Qd2! regains the [speelman@compuserve.com

North

SATELLITE AND CABLE

PICK OF THE DAY

6.00 Big (1988) (48633), 10.00 The Witches (1990) (55530): 12.00 The Princess Bride (1987) (38255) 2.00 (3ig (* 23) (30053) 4.00 The Witches (1990) (* 5) 6.00 Star Trek III: the Search for LOVE HIM or loathe him, it is mouth? It's your call. Spock (1984) (50817), 8.00 The Birdcage 1996) (55362). 10.00 The Frighteners (1996) (216411), 11.50 Home for the Holidays (1995) (511898). **1.3**\$ The Color Pur-ple (1985) (23745763). **4.10 - 6.00** The Borrowers (1973) (587638). 6.00 The Ocuble Man (1967) (79345053). 7.45 The Associate (1996) (959017). 9.45 Torn Between Two Lovers (1979) (366121). 11.15 Sea Devils (1937) (14668188). 1.00 The Double Man (1967) (31343). 3.00 The

actor with an ego large enough on the back of antics which can be a courageous saver of the unsayable or an arrogant loud

bard to ignore the raucous When historians want to be really cutting, they co foremost shock jock. Private a figure to Lucrezia Borgia. Parts (10pm Sky Moviemax), e Known as "the most depraved semi-autobiographical film for woman in history," ber exploits which Stern could only find one were the subject of one of the least successful BBC costume to pley himself (himself), traces dramas, the eponymously bitled his ascent to fame and fortune Borgias. Tonight's Biography (7pm History Channel) reflects best be described as showy. Is on the deeds of this illegitimate daughter of the Pope. JAMES RAMPTON



Lives: Shops and Robbers (1527015). 1.00 Fight Deck (9059305). 1.30 Ancient Warnors (9305299). 2.00 Close. (78463). 5.30 What a Weekend (969

7.00 The Simpsons (71459). 7.30 The Chris Evans Breakfasi Show (65492). 8.30 Hollywood Squares (76343). 9.00 Guilty! (90324). 10.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (49850), **11.00** The Oprah Win-frey Show (69614), **12.00** Jenny Jones (8839237), **12.55** The Special K Collection (53943072), **1.00** Days of Our Lives (9910546), **1.55** The Special K Collection (77262459). 2.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (8739053). 2.55 The Special K Collection (2745508). 3.00 Jenny Jones (7606430). 3.55 The Special K Collection (8276256). 4.00 Guilty! (23445). 5.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (9411). 6.00 Married with Children (6966). **6.30** Friends (1166). **7.00** The Simpsons (9940). **7.30** The Simpsons (9430), 8.00 The Simpsons (6188), 8.30 The Simpsons (5695), 9.00 Police Stopl 6 (48072). 10.00 Cops (88188). **10.30** Cops (64508). **11.00** Friends (73904). **11.30** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (53362), **12.30** Renegade (22657), **1.30 - 7.00** Long Play (4873367).

SKY ONE

SKY SPORTS 1 6.00 Golf - Presidents Cup (24817). 7.00 Sky Sports Centre (8412275), 7:15 Futures in Sport (463053), 7:45 Survival of the Fittest (462324), 8.45 Sky Sports Centre 66). 8.30 Racing News (60940). 6.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (92492). 9.30

The Rugby Club (64850). 10.30 Football League Review (21904). 11.00 What a Weekend (65275). 11.30 Golf · Presidents Cup (8150343). 4.30 Trans World Sport 6.00 Sky Sports Centre (56188). 7.00 Golf - Presidents Cup (92017). 9.00 -6.30 Golf - Presidents Cup (2208492).

SKY SPORTS 2 **7.30** Sky Sports Centre (5986072). **7.45** Racing News (8130430). **8.15** What a Weekend (6358985), 8.45 Sky Sports Centre (6671362), 6.00 International Cricket South Africa vs West Indies (4861275). 11.00 International Cricket Australia vs. England (8955614), 11.30 International Cricket South Africa v West Indies (7851898). 4.00 International Cricket Australia vs England (3258968). 6.00 Wild Spirits (9439546). 6.30 International Cricket South Africa v West Indies (4319053). 8,00 International Cricket Australia vs England (6039527), 10.00 Sky Sports Centre (6041362), 11.00 Hold the Back Page (3676430). 12.00 International Cricket Australia vs England (2156270). 2.30 Gillette World Sport Special (5537589). 3.00 - 7.30 International Cricket Australia vs England (4037096).

SKY SPORTS 3 **11.30** Futures in Sport (47638053), **12.00** Trans World Sport (48207275), **1.00** Tight Lines (48283695), **2.00** Bobby Charlton's Football Scrapbook (51578121). 3.30 Spansurfing (93062275). 6.00 World Powerboat Championships (93069188), 6.30 Gillette World Sport Special (93043140). 7.00 Friday Night Football (69575879). 10.00 World Wrestling (47631140). 12.00 Close.

EUROSPORT 7.30 Alpine Sking (74091). 9.30 Biathlon (93546). 10.30 Bobsleigh (63633). 11.30 Alpine Sking (2975459). 12.15 Bathlon (492850). 1.15 Bobsleigh (7208343). 2.00 Snooker: German Masters in Bingen (98091). 4.00 Swimming (99121). 5.30 Skiing (709f), **6.00** Curing (4256), **7.00**Snooleer, German Masters (93695), **9.00**Motor Sport (48508), **10.30** Curing (8841), **12.00-12.30** Snowboarding (9725f).

UK GOLD 7.00 Crossroads (2012625), 7.30 Neighbours (4699169). 7.55 EastEnders (4006546). 8.30 The Bil (8312966). 9.00 The Bill (8336546). 9.30 The House of Eliott (9494140). 10.30 Angels (8325430). 11.00 Dallas (3739140). 11.55 Neighbours (32188091). 12.25 EastEnders (2512140). 1.00 Juliet Bravo (7685695). 2.00 Dallas (6859879). 2.55 The Bill (2204430). 3.25 (889879), 2.55 The Bill (221430), 3.55 The Bill (641430), 3.55 EstEnders (1487168), 4.30 Angels (814324), 5.00 All Creatures Great and Small (2583140), 6.00 Due South (7805459), 7.00 The Comedy emative: May to December (2009459) 7.40 The Comedy Alternative: it Ain't Half Hot, Murn (6572891), 8.20 The Comedy Al-ternative: Dad's Army (7592614), 9.00 Men Behaving Badly (5292896), 9.40 The Firm (81446782). **11.05** The Bill (8141053). **11.35** The Bill (4792695). **12.05** Dr Who Omnibus

(21626096), 3.05 - 7.00 Shopping with Screenshoo (16464560).

6.00 Tiny Living (9721459). 9.00 The Roseanne Show (4524985), 9.50 The Jern Springer Show (5369188), 10.40 Michael Cole (3570546). **11.30** The Heat is On (1407898). **12.00** Living Issues (356887 12.30 Rescue 911 (1031140). 1.00 Beyond Befief: Fact or Fiction (1849343). 1.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (7979782). 2.05 Rolonda (43-19850). 2.55 Living It Upl (4087362). 3.55 The Jerry Springer Show (9055817). 4.45 Tempestt (7099343). 5.35 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (8376782). 6.10 The Jerry Springer Show (6003879), 7.00 Rescue 911 (7780966), 7.30 Beyond Bellet Fact or Fiction (1359782). 6.00 Ally McBeal (9109492). 9.00 Film: The Wrong Woman (1995) (9119879). 11.00 The Spicy Sex Files (1826492), 12.00 Close.

9.00 WCW Nitro on TNT (34479188), 11.35 WCW Thunder (57209121) 1.30 Fearless 5.00 Hour of Thirteen (1952) (50990454).

PARAMOUNT COMEDY CHANNEL 7.00 Clueless (3546). 7.30 Desmond's (7614), 6.00 Roseanne (9966), 8.30 Just Shoot Me (1701). 9.00 Cybil (43053). 9.30 Senfeld (59275). 10.00 Film: Class (1983) (67633). 12.00 Late Night with David Letterman (73744). 100 Taxi (86893), 1.30 The Critic (24641). 2.00 Dr Katz (56657). 2.30 Soap (35164). 3.00 Hooperman (56247). 3.30-4.00 Nightstand (59744).

GRANADA PLUS 6.00 The Box (9792459), 7.00 On the Buses (8115633), 7.30 Ferm Street Gang (8194140), 6.00 That's My Boy (8807695). 8.30 No, Honestly (8806966), 6.00 Classic Coronation Street (8820546), 8.30 Emmerdale (8703459). 10.00 thirtysomething (8190324). **11.00** Hawaii Five-O (8110188). **12.00** Classic Coronation Street (8800782). 12.30 Emmerdale (8707275), 1.00 The Piglet Files (8114904). 1.30 Watching (8706546). 2.00 thirtysomething (4782169). 3.00 The Adventures of Sharlock Holmes (4255459), **4.00** The Professionals (4234966), **5.00** Hawaii Five-O (2008430), **6.00** Emmerdale (843275), **6.30** Classic Coronation Street (8404527). 7.00 Mission Impossible (2830091). 6.00 The Professionals (2816411). **9.00** Classic Coronation Street (4223850). **9.30** Sez Les (8767411). 10.00 The Joker's Wild (8801411), 10.30 Hogan's Heroes (8827459). 11.00-2.00 As Granada Man & Motors (1029985).

BRIDGE Game all: dealer West

NOT MANY bridge articles deal with the common enough problem of minimising a certain loss, but this deal - from some 40 years ago comes to mind.

West opened One Spade, East responded Two Clubs and (as South) I joined in with Two Hearts. West doubled and all passed.

You can tell that this was an ancient band - nowadays it is doubtful whether East would bave bid at Two level and, most certainly West's double would have meant

something quite different. West led ♠10 against Two Hearts doubled and East won dummy's jack with his queen. He would have done better to play e spade now, but he was concerned with the possibility that \$10 was a singleton and therefore he cashed a second club before doing so.

I ruffed the third round of spades and followed with VK. This seemed natural enough, but West beld off. Now be was able to play a forcing game with his spades and, whatever tried, ended with three trump tricks to score 500 points. I was happy enough to note that East-West

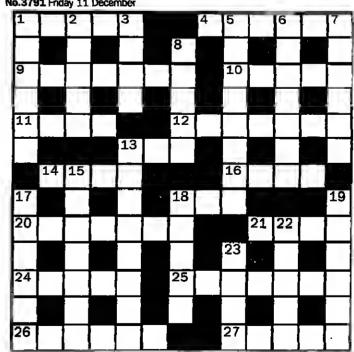
♠1087 ლვ 2 ♦K742 **4**J982 West **◆**AKJ95 432 **VAJ84** ω.ς **◊J**9 010863 **#**10 3 **♣**A K Q 75 South **∳**Q b **♥KQ10976** ♦ A Q 5 **◆**64

could have made game in spades hut, on reflection, 1 might have done even better.

Suppose that, instead of leading VK, I had crossed to dummy with ♦ K and finessed ♥ 10? Not with any bope of its winning, you underetand, but dummy's second trump would have protected me against e force. In this way the loss would have been only 200 points.

CONCISE CROSSWORD

No.3791 Friday 11 December



DOWN

13

Harden (5)

Unskilled (8)

Get better (7)

Precipitous (5)

Desirable (8)

17 Pronounced (6)

18 Carrion-eating animal (5)

15 Friendly (7)

19 Lower (6)

Shouted (6)

1 Central American country (6)

Arrange for publication (4)

ACROSS

Prepare for firing (5) Nonchalantly (6) Feed (7) 10 Drive out (5)

11 Submissive (4) 12 Blow up (7) 13 Attention (3) 14 Anguish (4) 16 Scottish dance (4) 18 Stolen (3) 20 Talent (7)

21 Church recess (4) Skewered meat (5) 25 Headlamp housing (7) 26 Make more profound (6)

22 Aviator (5) 23 Crust formed over graze (4) 27 Conductor's implement (5)

Solution to yesterday's Coucise Crossword: ACROSS: 7 Pollen, S Easier (Polynesia), 10 Tantrum, 17 Timid, 12 Leek, 13 Aloft, 17 Smock, 18 Fete, 22 Wrist, 23 Theatre, 24 Plenty, 25 Struts, DOWN: 1 Spatula, 2 Blanket, 3 Perry, 4 Mastiff, 5 Sigma, 6 Crudo, 9 Implicate, 14 Imitate, 15 Centaur, 16 Reverse, 19 Swipe, 20 Liner, 21 Berth.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC1 N IRELAND BBC1 N RELAND
As BBC1 London except: 6.3U
Newsine 6.30 (896): 9.30 Home Truths
(94508): 40.30 Film: Theima & Louise
(27306695): 12.45 Film: Dead Men Don't
Wear Plaid* (2726928): 2.10 Welrd Science (6293473). 2.35 Joins BBC News 24

BBC1 SCOTLAND As BBC1 London except: 12.25 Botannan Arald Uilleim (6026966). 12.30 Na Luchagan Friacia (73119695). 12.35 Na Luchagan Friacia (73119695). 12.35 An F-Cleamh Seileasder (36684817). 6.00 News (546). 9.30 Storm Alert - e 999 Special (622071). 10.15 Friday Sportscene (816256), 10.45 Film: Thelma & Louise (7587985), 12.10 Film: Dead Men Don't Wear Plaid* (9352676).

BBC1 WALES Table 1 London except: 9.30 Peter Karrie Umrasked (79904). 10.00 Film: Thelma & Louise (49226546). 12.05 The Stand-Up Show (3898812). 12.35 FilmDead Men Don't Wear Plaid* (7808763). 2.00 Weird Science (6204589). 2.25 News 24 (38916560).

As Cariton except: 1.00 Split Sec-ond (18966). 1.30 Home and Away

(97437188). **1.55** Jerry Springer (1543578). **2.35** A Splash of Colour (2817614). **5.40** Shortland Street (6947546). **6.00** Home and Away (731343). **6.25** Anglia News (929237). **10.00** News; Weather (26324). 11.30 The Jerry Springer Show (289904). 12.10 Soundtrax (8428015). 12.30 Pirate TV (72247). 1.00 God's Gift (80657). 2.00 ClubaVision (7412638). 2.45 The Haunted Fishtank (13831), 3.35 Film: Danger by My Side* (6756912), 4.20 Heirloom (87913638), 4.45 TV Nightscreen (14788102). 5.00 Coronation St (99744).

CENTRAL As Cariton except: 1.00 Wish You As Cartton except: 1.00 Wish You Were Here.? (18965), 2.40 Heart of the Country (4754362), 5.40 News; Weather (321614), 6.00 Home and Away (731343), 6.25 Central News and Weather (929237), 10.30 Central News (47463), 11.30 Tales from the Darkside (92430), 12.00 Short Story (5224102), 3.35 Johnder (224051), 5.20 Asien Ewe (2388251)

(324096). 5.20 Asian Eye (2388251). HTV WALES As Cariton except: 10.15 This Morning (53382), 12.15 HTV News (3737879), 1.00 Shortland Street (18966), 1.30 Home and Away (50879), 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (5398430), 2.40 Wish You

Were Here...? (4754362), 5:10 A Country Practice (6947546), 6:00 Home and Away (731343), 6:25 Wales Tonight (629237), 10:00 News; Weekend Weether (26324), 10:30 HTV News (477463), 11:30 The Jerry Springer Show (289904), 12:10 Soundirax (8428015), 12:30 Pirate TV SOUNDIEX (942015), 12-30 Pritate 1V (72247), 1.00 God's Gift (80657), 2.00 ClubeVision (7412638), 2.45 The Haunted Fishtank (13831), 3.45 Film; Danger by My Side* (6755812), 4.20 Heirloom (87913638), 4.45 Nightscreen (14786102), 5.00 Coronation Street (99744).

As HTV Wales except: 2.40 Relative Knowledge (4754362), 6.25 HTV West Weather (332121), 6.30 West Toright (966). MEREDIAN

MERBIAN
As Carifton except: 10.15 This Morning (532362). 1.00 Shortland Street (18966). 1.30 Home and Away (97437186). 1.55 The Jerry Springer Show (1543576). 2.35 Summer Festivals (2817614). 5.40 Home and Away (6947546). 5.37 The Listings (474546). 5.40 News; Weather (321614). 6.00 Meridian Tonight (69527). 10.30 Meridian News and Weather (477463). 11.30 The Jerry Springer Show (289904). 12.40 Soundrax (6428015). 12.30 Pirate TV (72247). 1.00 God's Gift

ra pagasa nga aki kumi na kaka na kata na kata na kat Manaka na kata na kata

(80657), **2.00** ClubaVision (7412636). **2.45** The Haunted Fishtank (13831). **3.15** Film: Danger by My Side* (6755812). **4.20** Herhoom (87973638). **4.45** Nightscreen WESTCOUNTRY

As Carlton except: 10.15 This Morning (532362). 12.15 Westcountry News (3737679). 12.27 Illuminations (6044362). 1.00 Step in Faith (18966). 2.40 West-country Update (4754362). 6.00 Westcountry Live (69527). 10.00 News; Weekend Weather (26324). 10.30 West-country News (477463). 11.30 Renegade (13633). 12.30 Pirate TV (72247). 1.00 Gods Gift (80657). 2.00 ClubaVision (741638). 2.45 The Haunted Fishtank 13889. 2.45 The Januar by My Sides 13931 3.15 Film: Danger by My Side* (6755812) 4.20 Heirloom (87913636). 4.45 ITV Nightscreen (14786102). 5.00 Coronation Street (99744).

YORKSHIRE As Cariton except: 10.15 This Morning (532362) 1.00 Home and Away (58251633), 1.25 Jerry Springer Show (5967193), 2.10 Emmerdale (86320898), 2.40 Shortland Street (4754382), 5.40 News (60/546), 5.55 Calendar (30/782), 6.30 Tonight (966), 10.30 Calendar News and Weather (47/463), 11.30

Caprice's Travels (92430). 12.00 Funny Girls - Serious Business (5224102). TYNE TEES

As Yorkshire except: 12.45 North East News (3737879). 5.55 North East Weather (454782). 6.00 North East Tonight (69527). 10.30 North East News (477463).

S4C
As Channel 4 except: 11.15 The Tender Tale of Cinderella Penguin (40150898).
12.00 Judge Joe Brown (46645188).
12.30 Sesame Street (75608625). 1.00 Planed Plant (4635261). 1.30 Voice-Over Ousen (88907343). 4.30 The Italian Kitchen (11505430). 5.00 Planed Plant (1601966). 5.30 Countdown (11596782).
6.00 Newyddion (19197546). 6.30 Heno (80827701). 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (33581275). 7.25 Y Clwb Rygbi (31474017).
6.00 Cefn Gwlad (16190850). 8.30 Newyddion (16119985). 9.00 Pawb a'i 6.00 Cefn Gwlad (16190850). 8.30 Newyddion (1619985). 9.00 Pawb a'i Farn (21999169). 10.00 Brookside (95957140). 10.35 Friends (14895188). 11.05 Eurotrash (66037169). 11.35 Harry Hill (75191879). 12.05 TFI Friday (82742831). 1.05 The Divine David Pre-sents (65308947). 1.40 Pop-Up Video (32680760). 2.10 Film: Bucket of Blood* (66797812). 3.15 Goals and Dreams (94134657). 4.10 Cince

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TELEVISION REVIEW

I bnagine scientists ha nuch as geneticists disil ussic Park. Biology is

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9.00 Suelness Break feet (26237). 7.00 News (T) (13411). 9.00 Kilroy (S) (T) (5586140). 9.40 Style Challenge (S) (1242492). 10.05 City Hospital (S) (T) (7025169). 10.55 News; Regional News; Weathar (T) (4750140). 11.00 Good Living (S) (4777917). 11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (S) (T) (4770904). 11.55 News; Regional News; Weathar (T) (1985053). 12.00 Pass the Buck (S) (9374814). 12.25 Going for a Song (S) (9353121). 12.50 Tha Weathar Show (S) (T) (73128343). 1.00 News; Weathar (T) (23996). 1.30 Regional News and Weathar (45432817). 1.40 Naighbours (S) (T) (97431904). 2.05 Ironalde (H) (9301512). 2.55 Battersea Dogs' Home (S) (T) (4725650).

5.35 Neighbours. Libby goes missing. Wise girl (S) (T) (415492).

9.00 News; Weather (1) (546).

6.30 Regional Naws. And weather (T) (898).

10

7.00 Weekend Wetchdog with Anne Robinson. Last we forget. Johnathan Mattland is her littla helper (S) (T) (2482).

Top of the Pope. Robble Williams, Bryan Adams and Mal C are "live" in the studio. Cher is still at number one with her dust with Stephen Newking, "Believe" (S) (782).

9.00 Car Wars. A gsng of crooks are changing the identity of care in the dead of night, apparently. Enter the Bristol coppers and thair "Operation impact" (1140). In Extreme Denger. This week, the remarkable friandship which developed when two families were brought together by an organ transplant (S) (T) (3575)

200

9.00 News; Regional News; Weather (1) (4459).

9.30 HIDDE Theima and Louise (Ridley Scott 1991 US). "Faminist" road movie with Geena Davis end Susan Sarandon breaking for the border. Sea Film of the Day,

Sarandon breaking for the balow (S) (T) (41717546)

12,05

1.30 Weird Science (S) (9874389).

Joins 9BC News 24 (79579522), To 7am

COMEDY OF THE DAY

1311111 Dead Men Don't Wear Pleid (Carl Reinar 1961 US). Clever and highly anjoyable film noir pastiche, putling Steve Martin right into scenas from movies past, auch as *While Heat*, Double *Indemnity* and *The Big Sleap*. Rachal Ward is his femma fatale (1) (5530763).

12.45 Comedy Netion (S) (32911). 1.15 Calé 21 (S) (9867980). To 150am.

BBC2

BBC

10.30 1311 Artists end Models (Frenk Tashin Artist Dean Mertin uses the sisep-talking of roc Jerry Lewis for his cartoon strip (T) (33672168)

12.45 **Beeufitut Things (3742701). 12.25 Urgant Action (S) (8024508). 12.30 Working Lunch (57782). 1.00 Johnson and Friands (21870362). 140 The Arta end Crefts Hour (3993968). 2.40 Mstch of the Day Greats (S) (86326072). 2.40 News; Regional News; Weelfhar (T) (8229053). 2.45 On Cue with Steve Davis (2800324). 3.25 News; Regional News; Weather (974904). 3.30 Gsrddnars' World (904). 4.00 Change That (9247614). 4.25 Ready, Staady, Cook (9240701). 4.55 Lowrf (S) (T) (7112527).

9.00 The Feet Show (R) (S) (T) (5701).

9.30 Goodness Gracious Me. Includes period drame in Nehru and Jihnah ~ the Cambridge Years, end the adventures of Skipinder the Punjabi Kangeroo (77546).

10.00 Havs I Got News for You (S) (38888).

10.30 Newsnight (T) (979091).

11.15 Urgent Action (S) (T) (852324).

11.20 Stells Street. Mick Jaggar and Kaith Richarda have to quit their corner shop (S) (T) (664650).

1130

11.35 Later with Jools Holland. Msssive Attack, Divine Comedy, Ronnia Spector and Biondia ara the last gussta in the prasent series (S) (841898).

MUSIC SHOW OF THE

DAY

7.00 Children's 9BC1 Hairy Jaramy (5301169), 7.05 Telatubbles (5395411), 7.30 Yog/s Treesura Hunt (8227091), 7.55 Smart (S) (T) (1240965), 9.20 Funky Phantom (R) (3463614), 8.40 Johnson and Friends (R) (S) (6640091), 9.55 Tales of the Tooth Fairles (8173508), 9.00 Hairy: Jeremy (R) (S) (4905169), 9.05 The Phil Silvers Show (7177237), 9.30 The Great Romances of the Twentieth Century (R) (53966), 10.00 Taletubblee (R) (S) (76492).

9.30 Cricket - the Ashes. Highlights of the first day of the Third Tast between England and Australia (5) (275). (9.00 The Simpsons. Double bill. in Three Man and a Comic Book, Bert is aeger to acquire a rare copy of a comic. And, at 6.25, in Blood Faud, Homar auggasts that Bart give blood (R) (S) (T) (786617).

6.45 Rebot Wers. More home-made robots compete in this joily show fronted by Philippe Forrester and Craig Charles. Commentary from Channel 5's voice of soccer, Jonethen Peerce (S) (T) (53/053).

7.15 Electric Circus. Flogs the new Antonio Banderas! ... Anthony Hopkins movie, The Mask of Zorro (S) (823782)

7.30 Romens in Britein. The development of Roman Britain's showpieca cities such as London and Bath (S) (T) (324).

10,00

10.30 London Weekend Tonight (T) (477463).

Theetrelend (S) (92430).

12.00 Funny Strie — a Serious Business (5224)02).
12.35 God's Gift (3970270). 1.35 Chb@Vision (6478034). 2.15 World Fooiball (14560). 2.45 seaQuast DSV (212744). 3.35 Trisha (R) (804198). 4.25 Cybernat (R) (S) (87912909). 4.50 ITV Nightscrean (4259763). 5.30 ITN Morning Naws (32366). To 6am.

GMTV (1354701).

Triaha (S) (T) (2085492). **10.15** This Morning (T) (52972324). **12.20** Your Shoul (6038343). **12.30** News; Weather (T) (51509). **1.00** London Today (T) (18966). **1.30** The Jarry Springer Show (S) (T) (7378966). **2.10** Home and Away (S) (T) (86320888). **2.40** High Road (S) (T) (4754362). **3.10** ITN News Haadlines (T) (1273989).

News; Weekend Weether (T) (321914).

Capite) Christmas. Celebrities including Caprice, Ian Wright, the Duchass of York and David Clinols introduce films about their favourite charities (S) (68527).

Coronation Strset. Cultist Zoe makes a dacision about her relationship with Ashley while the Platta are furious (T) (850).

The sill. Burnside relies on a convicted paedophile to find a missing boy in this hour-long episoda antitisd "Stranga Badfellows" (7) (8804).

Britein's Most Wanted. Penny Smith and Darmof Murnaghan link the mug shots, reconstructions and aurveillance footage. Ring 0600 555111 if you want to shop aomabody (S) (I) (9140).

wsj Westher (T) (28324).

Fridey Night's All Wright, Caprica sasme to have become lan Wright's sidskick in his ongoing chat show. Their guests this wask are Will Smith, Christopher Lee, Samantha Janua and Alistair McGowan. Plus music from the Honsyz and Billia (S) (620166).

Children's ITV: Wizedore (R) (805341), 3.30 The Forgottan Toye (R) (3135072), 3.45 The Adventures of Captain Pugwash (S) (3506701), 4.05 Barnards Watch (1426237), 4.20 Fun House (S) (T) (9245258), 4.50 Top Tan of Everything (2829879).

Home end Away (S) (T) (6947546).

Brucs's Price is Right. Price-tag guassing contastants vie for holidays and new cars. Bruce Forsyth rolla his eyes for taughs (S) (T) (7168).

9.00 Gerden Doctors. The doca work on the only gardsn in the UK dasigned to cope with possible climate change. A bit tissh, Innit? (T) (4850).

8.30 9rookside. is Ron's reistionship with Magan a non-atartar? is Joay in deep financial dabt? Mick and Jo hit it off -- but is he playing with fire? (T) (3985).

10.00 Frasier. Another apisode from the very first series.
Frasier sets up Daphne with his new station manager,
unawara that he is gay (R) (S) (T) (24986).

11.05 Herry Hill (437979). **11.35** TFI Fridsy (5) (T) (741169). **12.35** 4 Later: The Divine David Presents (1347299).

1.15 Docs Strange - 9lessing end Curse (5517473).

1.40 [2][M] A Bucket of 9lood (Rogar Cormsn 1959 US). Dead bodies in wax museum shocker updated to Beatrick ara (8768893).

7.00 Chennel 4 Newej Weether (S) (T) (239411).

The Political Slot (709324).

9.00 NIOIN: Friends. "The One with Ross's Wedding" (parts 1 and 2). See Comedy of the Day, below (T) (6782).

10.30 Eurotresh. Features, in no particular order: Sting. The Sex Olympics, All de Bassville and Bananaman (S) (T) (225411).

140 (11019) 4 Letter: Pop-up Video. Pop videos with captions, basically, but quite addictive. See Music Show of the Day, ballow (2286947).

2.45 Gosts end Dreems (2101936). To 3.40am.

FILM OF THE DAY

Carlton

35 1317 The Overlanders (Harry Watt 1949 UK). A sort of Antipodaan western, mads by Ealing Studios, which tells the true story of how 500,000 haad of cattle were moved to safety in snticipation of a Sacond World War Japanese invesion of Australia's Northern Tarritory. Beautifully tilmed by documenterist Harry Watt end starring Chipe Rafterty (T) (94450633).

.00 5 News and Sport (S) (6421072), 7.00 WidaWorld (R) (S) (T) (6289459), 7.30 Milkshakel (S) (2826459), 7.35 Wimzleb Housa (R) (S) (6483362), 5.00 Havakazoo (R) (S) (7894914), 8.30 Dappladown Farm (7893985), 9.00 Floyd Uncorked (S) (T) (3427324), 9.25 Russall Grents Postcards (4352782), 9.30 The Oprah Wilnfrey Show (8516411), 10.20 Sunset Baach (S) (T) (5794463), 1140 Leeza (R) (S) (8760343), 12.00 5 Newa at Noon (S) (T) (7897701), 12.30 Family Aftaira (S) (T) (2418411), 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (8271430), 1.30 Sons and Daughters (2417782), 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (1786392), 2.30 Good Afternoon (S) (2462237).

The 9ig 9reakfast (S) (T) (38991). 9.00 Homa Movies (R) (9795324).

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THE FRIDAY REVIEW

11.15 The Tender Tale of Cinderelle Panguin (1595633). 11.25 Two Castlea (9252817). 11.30 Here's One I Mede Earlier (R) (1362). 12.00 Sesama Street (23237). 12.30 I Dreem of Jeannie (42850). 1.00 Judge Joe Brown (16508). 1.30 Roots to Success (45418879).

Chennel 4 Recing trom Cheltenhem. Including the 155, 230, 305 and 340pm races (15896445).

3,30

Miles 1970 UK). Overly pretty DH Lawrence adaptation, scripted by Alsn Pleter. Joanne Shimkus is well cast, however, as the clergyman's virginal daughter who fells for gypsy Franco Nero. Honor Blackman, Maurics Danhem end Kay Walsh are also involved (T) (7810324).

TO S

4.00 Fifteen to One (S) (T) (878). **4.30** Countdown (S) (T) (8871140). **4.55** Ricki Laka (S) (T) (7107695). 5.30 Pet Rascua Roadshow (T) (343).

9.00 TF1 Friday. Chris Evans's lucky guests are "The Pregnant Spicas" (te Scary and Posh), Will Smith and Lily Savage. Music from Silver Sun and Alisha's Attic (S) (87/89).

5.00 100 Per Cent. The game show without e host (S) (2623701).

5.20 The Roseanne Show (9394256).

9.30 Family Affeirs. Nick cannot finish his breakfast quick snough when he is joined by Pam's scantily clad mother Kind of makes you wish you were home in time to catch this soap (S) (1) (2614053).

7.00 5 News, Including First on Five. National and intermetional news with Kiraly Young (S) (1) (1769850).

7.30 Frostrup on Fridey. Mariella Frostrup meets actor Richard Wilson (S) (2610237).

9 •

9.00 Fort 9 oyard. Members of Nottingham YMCA join Melinds Massenger and Leale Granthem for fun end games off the coast of Franco (S) (1) (6664985).

Melodrametic campus shocker in which disturbed college tutor (Jera Burns) becomes fixeted with one of his teenage students (Brook Langton), almost 10 years his junior. When she rejects his advances, the teacher is driven over the adge, posing as her boyfriend, etalking her and finally asseculting her. Ho-hum (S) (T) (58491053).

مكذا من الاحل

10.40 The People vs Jerry Sadowitz (8) (390841).

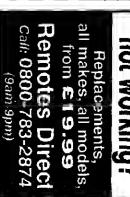
11.10 IEIM Wolt et the Door (Hanning Carlaen 1986 Fr/Den). Donald Sutherland dons a atraw het and playa the French painter Paul Gauguin (1031492).

12.55 FILM Whate Music (Richard J Lewis 1994 Can).
Reclusive burnt-out rock in roller maeta life-aftirming teanager in this well-acted drama (2486454). 2.55 [3][M] Hostages (Frenk Tuttle 1943 US). Czech resistancu saga. William Bendix stere (82692947). To 4.25em.

TELEVISION GUIDE BY GERARD GILBERT







"Super VHS delivers 440 times of resolutivers, standard VHSs 250 inces.

Got the picture?

FRIENDS (9pm C4, right) Weven't we all flattered and flustered when Friends filmed Ross and Enuly's wedding episode in London earlier this year – not that the scriptwriters had anything complimectary to say about us effete, free-loading Brits. Hey, Joey can't even find a decent pizza in the happening, post-Conran London. Anyhow, the double-episode features Jennifer Saunders, Tom Conti, Hugh Laurie, Richard Branson (as e seller of taurist tat) and Fergle, and is e transetlantic mish-mash of comedic styles. Humour may travel, but it sure

stagnant pre-Christmas look at the moment, and will do for another week yet. Of the precious few surprises scattered around, one is Pop-up Video, which has a single, simple and sbrangely infectious idea. It takes old pop videos and then bombards them with pop-up espilons full of tangential information. So on Culture Club's "Karmo Chameleon" we learn which of the extras was Boy George's boytriend at the time, where the video was filmed, who they litred the boat from and so on. I know, The Chart Show has been doing it for

THELMA AND LOUISE (9.30pm BBC1, nght) Whether or not Thelma and Louise is really a feminist movie would cotall a level of debate totally undsserved by a Ridley Scott film. It is, though, o cracking piece of antertainment, serving up unabasted dollops of wish-fulfilment for any woman who has ever felt like sticking a gun in the face of a violent, possessive, bullying man. Geena Davis is the timid housewife, Thelma, going on the run with strong-willed waitress Susan Sarandon, Louisa, after the latter kills a man who was trying to rape Thelma. Tha two iconic monnents are, of course, the Grand Canyon finale and Brad Pitt going down in movie history.